

# THE NATIONAL WOOL GROWER

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## NATIONAL WOOL GROWER

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## *Affairs of Wool and Sheep*

#### Retrospective:

The close of 1926 finds the sheep and wool business as usual in the lead of changes that are bringing about the new post-war era in American business and industry.

Whether the halting markets indicate a long time level of values or are temporary and short timed variations from the values of the period from 1923 to 1925, it is yet too early to say. While other agricultural commodities have slowly been progressing toward more satisfactory price levels, wool and lambs have lost ground. In referring to present markets it must always be considered that the sheep business was the first of this country, and the second of the world, to go into deflation, and it was the first to recover from deflation to a remunerative price basis.

The strong economic basis of sheep raising demonstrated by its rapid rate of recovery attracted attention that has resulted in a material increase of production. The comparatively good behavior of the lamb market under increased receipts is evidence of the underlying strength of demand for lamb and if lower quotations continue sufficiently long to reach the consumer, a permanently broadened outlet will result.

#### The Present:

There has been no inflation since recovery from the collapse of 1920 and any changes now apparent or to come must be results of conditions of supply and demand. Wool, more than any other textile fiber, is sensitive to recession and advances in the disposition and ability of the public to buy. The course of the goods trade during the last eighteen months has shown under-buying rather than over-buying and there is no ground for anticipation of diminished use of wool. Wool still is statistically strong and an early improvement in values is not impossible. The

large sales forced by growers last spring at low prices are still a factor in maintenance of low quotations at Boston, though for a time prices were on a parity with foreign markets plus the tariff.

The hand-to-mouth system of buying now in operation all the way from wool lofts to retail counters makes for more stable prices and calls for carrying of supplies in the form of raw material. The smaller and more spread out buying orders from the mills have taken from the market much of the attraction for speculators and plungers and make orderly marketing and selling when needed for actual consumption a safer plan for adoption by growers.

#### Prospective:

Since there has not been inflation, and with an improving tone to world conditions in wool manufacturing, there is no occasion for concurrence by growers in attempts to talk down values in wool. If next spring's prices are not satisfactory, it should be an opportune time for growers to place the selling of their clips entirely upon a consignment, instead of a speculative, basis. If the bulk of the country's production can be handled in this way all will benefit. Larger and better crops of lambs are making up a greater proportion of the sheep raiser's gross income, but the improvement and more intelligent selling of the wool must always receive attention and study. It will be helpful if operating expenses are planned to be paid as far as possible from lamb income, and wool checks permitted to come at such time within the twelve months as they can be secured through sales to mills and relied upon to pay the balance of cash outlay and to furnish a balance in years that permit a profit.

The sheep business should not be considered as upon the downward side of a changing cycle of values. Prospects in

all lines of industry indicate more stable prices than in former times, with such prices allowing comparatively small margins of profit. If such a condition shall arrive and remain, the more efficient and lower cost producer will be most secure, and as always, efficiency means improvement of quality just as much as it means higher yields and lower expenses.

#### The Path of Progress:

It is becoming increasingly plain and certain that the wool growers' security in the future depends upon better planned and regulated distribution of wool and lambs to the consuming markets. These matters will be prominent in the discussions of the winter meetings and every organization member can afford to join in determining how his section can fit its production into the best general plan of selling. He also can well afford to get more of his neighbors into his organization for the planning and execution of better selling and of production as well.

The Wool Grower rarely attempts to suggest to its readers lines for thought outside their own business. It is not unfitting, however, at Christmas time to suggest that in community action for keeping the sheep business in line with the principles of progress in American business life, there is opportunity to give service and to practice good citizenship.

### WOOL AND MANUFACTURING OUTLOOK

Seldom has the wool situation looked better statistically or on paper than it does at the present time. However, this statistical strength is not fully reflected in the trade. The best judgment I have found in the trade is that this is accounted for by two major factors: First, all textile mills are striving more than usual to show as small stocks of wool and few finished articles in the inventory column and as strong a cash position as possible; second, textile mills of all kinds, both wool and cotton and now silk, have had and are now having hard sledding. This has led to "hand to mouth" trading. Mills which formerly bought in large lots of say from 100,000 to 500,000 pounds now buy

from week to week in quantities of from ten to thirty per cent of these amounts.

Though trading is steady on this basis and prices have remained fairly constant, there is no tendency to price advances, nor is there likely to be until during January. After samples of heavy weights are shown in February, mills will consume wools as usual in fairly large volume. In preparation for this, buying of new wools should attain good volume by the middle of January and prices should advance. Markets are very lightly stocked with desirable wools and no recession of values seem possible.

The gradual resumption of manufacturing which will follow the settlement of the coal strike in England will bring Bradford and other centers into the English market and relieve weakness there. London and Continental markets are very steady at present levels. If manufacturing in England attains any volume, prices will advance.

The textile situation is going through a serious readjustment. Europe with its much lower scale of wages as well as cheaper raw material has captured practically all foreign business, except in certain specialties, and as a consequence, American manufacturers are confined to the home market. This results in some idle machinery and much cutthroat competition in both wool and cotton products. It would greatly benefit the manufacturing industries, especially wool mills, if much of the antiquated and high cost mills were scrapped and production limited to the supplying of domestic needs by the modern and efficient mills.

The price of raw material and labor is not today the prime factory in textile troubles. Under-consumption or over-production, and they are practically the same thing, both contribute largely to the difficulty. The law of economics operates under the rule "survival of the fittest." High cost and inefficient mills must give way to the low cost and efficient fellows. Latter day business practice would indicate that another large merger of up-to-date mills be made, similar to the American Woolen Mills, thus eliminating extreme competition, doing away with cancellation evils, and enabling operating mills to make

more money on less production. Further, if some modern designing genius shall awaken to the fact that American women are now living in a "jazz" age and give them jazz fabrics to correspond, as loud and "saxaphoney" in color and design as the day in which we live—they will come back to woolen dresses and hosiery. Women are tiring of imitation silks and have learned the uneconomy thereof.

Having made this preachment to fellows in the business, we as wool growers must cast the beam out of our own eye. Although our methods of marketing have greatly improved during the past few years, we have but made a beginning. First, constant betterment of our product is demanded. Longer and better grown and lighter shrinking fiber will bring more money. Second, our marketing practices must be improved. Wool can no longer be sold in bulk in a few months of the year, either here or in the foreign primary markets. Our present system of small local pools must be enlarged to state pools and after this is done, we come to the last and greatest demand of this modern business age—a general cooperative selling agency for all pools unified into one organization must be set up to market the American clip in an orderly way throughout twelve months of the year instead of sixty to ninety days as now.

Financing heretofore has been the great handicap. Today this has been solved. What we now need is a little more faith in the ability and integrity of our fellows whom we shall place in charge of the business. When we have done this, we will receive full value for our own wools. We can never receive more, but under our present system we often receive less. Our own competition against one another; competition of pool against pool; the selling of distressed wool; the selling by growers ignorant of true values, and above all the selling in a few brief months of a product that is consumed throughout an entire year, are all factors which can and do depress values and create false markets and can all be cured and done away with through an easy, secure, scientific method of cooperative selling.

F. J. Hagenbarth.

## SECRETARY JARDINE TO ADDRESS WOOL GROWERS IN CONVENTION AT BUTTE

Secretary Jardine has accepted the invitation, presented to him in Washington by President Hagenbarth last week, to address the National Wool Growers Association's convention at Butte, Montana, on January 22, the last day of the convention. It is unusual for a member of the Cabinet to leave Washington during a short session of Congress, but Secretary Jardine, in his appreciation of the important problems affecting the western live stock in-



Secretary of Agriculture W. M. Jardine.

dustory and also relating to his department, will meet the wool growers at Butte before reaching Salt Lake for the conference with the representatives of the stockmen on the grazing fee question on January 24. On January 25, he will address the annual convention of the American National Live Stock Association, also at Salt Lake City.

## THE 62nd ANNUAL CONVENTION AT BUTTE

The principal problems scheduled for discussion at the 1927 convention of the National Wool Growers Association are the securing of an increase in lamb consumption to absorb larger production of

recent years, the orderly marketing of lambs and the distribution of supplies at the market, and the marketing of wool.

While the market position of wool is widely announced as being statistically strong, resistance of the mills to price advances has been very determined and successful. The immediate question of what the future may have in store in the way of wool demand and prices will be before the convention, and effort is being made to secure an address on this subject by a prominent authority in the Boston wool trade.

Considerable attention will also be devoted to the grazing legislation proposed at Washington. Since the last annual convention, a new bill has been prepared and placed on the Senate calendar. Some of the provisions of this bill have not been favored by representatives of some sections of the producing territory, while other sections are very anxious for the enactment of certain phases of the measure now pending. There is also the question of charges for grazing on the national forests, which is scheduled for a settlement through conference with Secretary Jardine on January 24. It is probable that the convention committee on this subject will represent the wool growers in presenting the matter to the Secretary at Salt Lake.

Phases of economical production will be listed on the program for discussion by prominent authorities. The past year has brought into evidence a condition which seems likely to continue and under which prices obtainable at the markets are but slightly above actual costs of production, even under favorable circumstances. An expensive winter season, such as commonly occurs in the range territory, would easily increase costs on 1927 production beyond the point at which the 1926 wool and lambs were sold.

Representatives of the large lamb feeders of Colorado and Nebraska are being asked to discuss the weights of lambs desirable for their use and how these supplies can be transferred most economically from the range raisers to the feed lots.

Full details regarding the program will appear in the January Wool Grower, which will be issued in advance of the convention.

## SHEEPMEN'S CALENDAR

Washington Wool Growers' Convention—January 11-12, 1927, Yakima, Wash.  
Oregon Wool Growers' Convention—January 14-15, 1927, Pendleton, Oregon.  
Idaho Wool Growers' Convention—January 17-18, 1927, Weiser, Idaho.  
Montana Wool Growers' Convention—January 19, 1927, Butte, Montana.  
National Wool Growers' Convention—January 20-22, 1927, Butte, Montana.  
Utah Wool Growers' Convention—January 24, 1927, Salt Lake City, Utah.  
American National Live Stock Ass'n's. Convention—January 25-27, 1927, Salt Lake City, Utah.

A large attendance is assured for this sixty-second annual convention of the National Wool Growers Association at Butte, Montana, on January 20, 21, and 22, 1927. The railroads have provided for the selling of return tickets at the rate of one and one-half fares. Those coming from Arizona and New Mexico and states east of Wyoming can secure the benefit of the rate by purchasing regular tickets to a point within the territory covered by the convention rates and securing return tickets from there to Butte. No certificates are required.

The Butte Chamber of Commerce is making unusual preparations for the comfort and entertainment of those attending the convention. Butte hotel accommodations are ample and good.

## IMPROVED CONDITIONS IN WOOL INDUSTRY PREDICTED

Conditions in the wool trade business today indicate that the coming year will be a good one for those interested in the industry, according to Mr. Claude H. Ketchum, of Cordingly & Co., who was recently elected president of the Boston Wool Trade Association. The above statement, which was included in his address accepting this position, was based, he declared, upon the following factors: "Wool prices seem to be stable and are not much above the cost of production; stocks of raw wool and finished goods are small; many mills are busier now than they have been for several months; the country as a whole is prosperous, which means good buying power; and many houses, members of the Boston Wool Trade Association, have cut down their running expenses so that they are operating on a proper business basis and in general there is a real spirit of working together throughout the Boston wool trade."



### COMMISSION RATES ORDERED REDUCED AT OMAHA STOCK YARDS

An order calling for reductions in the present rate of charges for selling live stock at Omaha was issued by Secretary of Agriculture, Wm. M. Jardine, on November 19. In this procedure the Secretary acted upon the recommendations of the officials of the Packers and Stockyards Administration. The Act of 1921 empowered the Secretary of Agriculture to determine and put into effect what constitute reasonable charges for all forms of service at public stockyards. The rates prescribed by the Secretary to take effect at Omaha on January 1 next are in part as follows:

For the selling of straight orders of live stock in single ownership: Cattle, single deck, \$15; hogs, single deck, \$12, double deck, \$18; sheep, single deck, \$12, double deck, \$18.

These rates are to supersede the charges which previously were in effect at Omaha. The old charges were determined by arbitration proceedings which were concluded in 1923. The various livestock associations including the National Wool Growers Association, had, shortly after the effectiveness of the new law, filed a petition with the Department of Agriculture for a reduction in the rates then prevailing. It was agreed that decision should be reached by the arbitration method, the arbitrators being Messrs. Gore and Dagger, then connected with the Packers and Stockyards Administration at Washington. In making the award, which became effective shortly after its appearance, these arbitrators placed Omaha charges on the basis of cattle, \$15 to \$19; hogs, single deck, \$12 to \$14, double deck, \$17 to \$22; sheep, maximum, single deck, \$14, double deck, \$20.

The rates as prescribed by the arbitrators in 1923 were in effect at Omaha until January of this year. In that month the Omaha Live Stock Exchange, acting for its sixty-one member firms, filed with the Packers and Stockyards Administration a new set of rates containing material increases. The effectiveness of these rates was suspended by the order of the Secretary of Agriculture and hearings were held at Omaha from March 25 to April

14. Final oral argument was presented by the representatives of the commission houses before the Secretary at Washington on October 25th and 26th. In suspending the proposed increased rates and ordering hearings thereon, the Packers and Stockyards Administration called into question the reasonableness of the old rates and undertook a far reaching investigation with a view to arriving at a means of determining just and reasonable charges for the selling of live stock.

In the report of the proceedings which preceded the announcement of the final order of the Secretary, considerable information is contained regarding the expenses and receipts of commission houses operating at Omaha. It is shown that eight of the sixty-one firms handled above 3500 cars each in 1925, representing 35 per cent of the business at that market. In these eight firms, some of which were branch houses, the average net return for each owner was \$12,687. The lowest return per owner was \$2,350 for the group handling under 500 cars per house per year. In another place it was shown that the average percentage of gross amounts spent for the purpose of securing new business was 17 per cent in the case of the houses having the larger percentage.

### HUGH SPROAT BECOMES DIRECTOR IN SPOKANE FEDERAL LAND BANK

Mr. Hugh Sproat, secretary of the Oregon Wool Growers Association, was recently elected as director for the third division (Oregon and southern Idaho) of the Federal Land Bank of Spokane, Washington. The board of directors of this institution are elected by the various farm loan associations, each association's voting privilege being based on the number and size of the loans made, and not only pass on the applications for farm mortgages, but also control the intermediate credit facilities, loaning on bonded warehouse receipts of the different farm products. The experiences of many years as a stockman and as president of the Idaho Wool Growers Association, fit Mr. Sproat eminently to give valuable service to both the Federal Land Bank of Spokane and the farmers and stockmen.

### WASHINGTON STOCKMEN ESTABLISH PLANT TO SLAUGHTER RANGE HORSES

Several of the stockmen in this territory have incorporated a company under the name of the American Products Company and put in a plant at Yakima, Washington, to kill off the worthless range horses and manufacture feed for poultry, foxes, dogs and fish hatcheries out of the meat thus secured. Already, after running two weeks, they have slaughtered over 500 head. They pay \$3.00 each for the horses, but some are so small and poor that there is little or no profit in them. Then, of course, the special equipment used for the purpose will be worthless in a couple of years when most of the horses are slaughtered.

This horse killing plant is of inestimable value to the sheepmen, as our ranges are overrun by worthless horses. We figure one horse eats as much feed as eight sheep, and as sheep only use a certain range four months, or one-third of the year while horses are on the same range all year, one horse would equal, say, 25 sheep, or 100 horses, 2500 sheep. The carrying capacity of ranges where lots of horses are running should be increased one-third to one-half after the extermination of the horses. Yakima, Washington. H. S. Coffin.

### EXPRESSION OF GOOD WILL FROM SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

Enclosed herewith please find two checks in payment of dues in the National Wool Growers Association for Mr. Guy Simmons and myself, both of Aztec, New Mexico.

We think the National Association is doing very fine work and want to encourage it all we can. We are trying to get all the members of our local association to join the National or at least to subscribe to its financial support. The drive to increase the consumption of lamb is very commendable and should rightfully enlist the cooperation of every sheepman in the country.

Temple H. Cornelius, President, San Juan County Wool Growers Association.

Aztec, N. M.



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TOTAL .....	\$811,165
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mentary report proposes a revised scale of charges which represent adoption of Mr. Casement's recommendation that the scale of fees as proposed in the 1924 report for the Blue Mountain area in eastern Oregon and for some sections in northern California be reduced to the level of charges in other sections.

The chief of the Forest Service has

the Secretary of Agriculture to order into effect will result in a total annual increased revenue from grazing of nearly one million dollars per year. The collections from grazing as reported by the forester in 1925 were \$1,725,376, and the expenses for administration of grazing, \$535,944.

The average increase made in charges for cattle would be about 40 per cent and

rate prescribed, and in very few cases would the minimum rate come into effect.

In the table on page 15, the present rates and the proposed rates are shown according to individual states and also for a few representative single forests.

Neither the Casement nor the Rachford report shows the total of the increased collections that would be made according to states or individual forests when the fee increases have come into full effect. The figures shown in the table are derived from the average proposed charges as given in the Rachford supplemental report and the average length of the grazing season in each state as estimated on the basis of data presented in Part 6 of the hearings in connection with Senate Resolution 347.

The table also shows that there is an average reduction in the charges for cattle grazing in New Mexico and a very slight increase for sheep. On the whole annual grazing collections from that state would be reduced by \$3,000. Arizona would be asked to pay a comparatively small increase, the rates on both cattle and sheep being raised only small fractions of a cent.

#### The 'Commercial Value' Idea

It is to be regretted that the Department of Agriculture has not earlier placed this question in the hands of Mr. Casement, or some other equally capable and disinterested person. As it has been done, Mr. Casement was handed the Rachford report for review and report. The Forest Service and former secretaries of agriculture in their sincere but partisan and imperfect view of the matter had committed themselves to the commercial value idea and the scheme of figuring on the basis of private land bases. It is not surprising then that Mr. Casement's recommendations after only six months' study of affairs of 30,000 people in ten states should be so largely corroborative of the report that was placed in his hands. If he had been allowed a proper length of time and asked to survey the problems without regard to what had gone before, it seems likely that his findings would have been such as to result in a harmonious disposition of the whole question.

Mr. Casement asserts in his report to Secretary Jardine, that there is full



Growth of young pine in an Oregon forest regularly grazed with sheep for over twenty years.

concurrent in most of the recommendations made by Mr. Casement and has asked the Secretary of Agriculture to approve an order and announcement supporting the Rachford report as modified, and putting into effect in 1927 a slightly reduced set of increases in grazing fees. In compliance with an agreement made last summer under which no increase in fees would be ordered to take effect until representatives of the National Wool Growers Association and the American National Live Stock Association could discuss the matter with him, Secretary Jardine has set January 24 as the time for his conference with those who may be selected by the two national organizations to express their views upon the action now requested of the secretary by the Forest Service. The conference will take place at Salt Lake City.

#### The Fees As Now Proposed

The rates as proposed in the new scale which the Forest Service now recommends

for sheep about 55 per cent. In some cases the charges for sheep have been doubled and in a few forests in California the increase is over 100 per cent. Under the recommendations for which the Forest Service now asks the approval of the Secretary of Agriculture, the proposed increases would be brought into effect over a period of four years, the final increase being collected in 1930.

For most forests maximum and minimum rates of fees are prescribed. It would remain for the officials of the forests to determine which permits should take the maximum, minimum, or in-between rates. However, it does not appear that minimum rates would apply to a very considerable number of permits. The average rates for each state and forest as presented in the supplemental report submitted by Mr. Rachford as complying with the Casement recommendations shows that in some cases the average charge would be equal to the maximum

justification for employment of the principle of setting grazing fees on the basis of commercial value and that the collection of private land data as made by the Forest Service is a proper method for measuring such commercial value. He considers that wisdom and justice will not permit making full application of the principle. The following is his language:

"In spite, however, of the correctness of the principle in the abstract, I seriously doubt the wisdom and justice of making full application of it in a schedule of national forest grazing fees. This doubt is induced solely by social and economic considerations and by the belief that the inauguration of a purely commercial policy now would be in a measure inconsistent with the practice originally approved and heretofore followed by the Forest Service in stressing the social and economic motive in its relations with its permittees."

Just how the principal can be sound and right and yet at the same time not permissible for application when wisdom and justice are considered is not made apparent. In the attempt to correct the admitted injustice of the whole plan and principle of the Forest Service appraisal of grazing, Mr. Casement recommends an arbitrary reduction of twenty-five per cent in the previous recommendations of the



Timber production on grazed areas. The growth has crowded out the forage.

The ridiculous aspect of the application of the Forest Service method of assessing charges representing commercial values based upon private land data was brought out very clearly in the case of the Blue Mountain area in Eastern Oregon. In the original Rachford report, it was recommended that the monthly charges for sheep should be raised from 3.3 cents per head per month to twelve cents per head per month. Charges for cattle would be 27

one cow. It has been very difficult for the Forest Service to defend the soundness of the principle of their appraisal in view of such strange and ridiculous results. In his supplemental report of November 1, Mr. Rachford quotes the forester of district six as follows:

"The base fee for sheep in the Blue Mountain region for 1925 is \$.003 higher than 1924 revised base and \$.017 higher than the 1918-1922 average. We have advised you heretofore that the trend of rentals for sheep range in the Blue Mountain region is constantly upward. The Blue Mountain sheep fees have been given a great deal of consideration but so far no plan or scheme has occurred to us that could be used in lowering these 'peak' fees without abandonment of range appraisal principles."

Mr. Casement's report furnishes no suggestion of how the Rachford principles can be made to produce common sense results in the case of the fees worked out for the Blue Mountain area. Like Mr. Rachford, he is unwilling to recognize the inadequacy of the commercial value principle. He recommends an arbitrary reduction of the Blue Mountain area fees and apparently considers the same principle fair for application in the other forest areas.

#### Dependent Ranch Property

Neither of the reports now before the

(Continued on page 46)



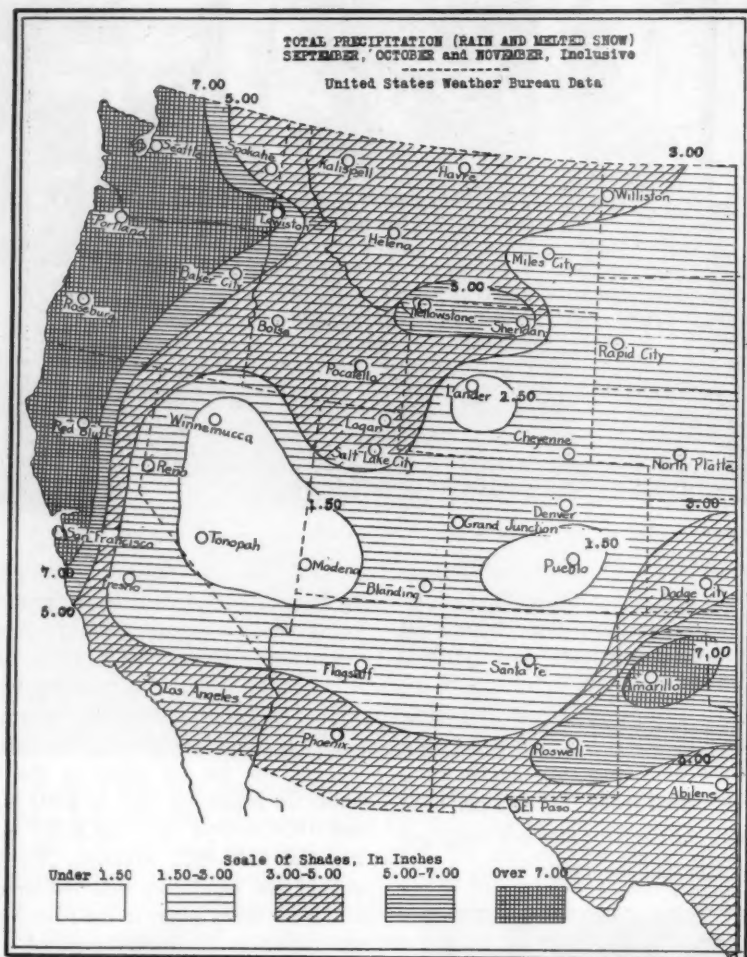
Shading up in an Oregon forest without injury to young tree growth.

Forest Service. On the same grounds he should and with equal propriety and justice could recommend a reduction of one hundred per cent.

cents per head per month. Thus, the following out of the principles of commercial value established a ratio in grazing capacity of approximately two sheep to



# THE RAIN FALL RECORD



Distribution of the September, October and November Rainfall.

The accompanying tables and chart show that the autumn and early winter precipitation has totaled in excess of the normal in California, Oregon, Idaho, Montana and Wyoming, and in parts of Nevada, Washington, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas. The deficiencies in the remainder of these latter states are unimportant as a rule, though in all the states mentioned save Montana the mild weather has caused a deficiency of snow on the winter ranges.

The excesses above noted were accumulated chiefly in the month of November, rather late in the season, in all the far western and northwestern states. Elsewhere, however, the excesses mentioned were accumulated partly in September and October, which in most cases gave an

improved condition of ranges. The November precipitation is too late for grains, and for most of the range, except in the coast areas.

A deficiency of precipitation for the quarterly period just ended has accumulated noticeably in Utah, Colorado and most of Washington, though in the latter state recent rains have given the state a good wetting and previous moisture had been sufficient for most forage plants. The deficiency also extended, as before stated, to parts of states where local areas received totals in excess of normals. Soil moisture for grains and grasses, and snow and water for live stock on the open range, are thus more or less seriously lacking in Utah, Colorado, and locally elsewhere over the plateau country. The weather

has been mild, however, and live stock have not only been comfortable, but have done very well with light supplemental feeding. Only the State of Montana has had a good snow covering throughout its entire area that has endured and with some low temperatures, caused some increases in feeding.

Precipitation on the Western Live Stock Ranges during September, October and November, 1926, and departure from the normal were as follows:

Station	Total for 3 Months	Departure
<b>Washington</b>		
Seattle	8.57	-1.14
Spokane	3.95	-0.13
Walla Walla	7.08	+2.55
<b>Oregon</b>		
Portland	17.05	+5.52
Baker City	2.29	-0.55
Roseburg	12.05	+4.03
<b>California</b>		
San Francisco	9.11	+5.06
Fresno	2.91	+0.89
Los Angeles	3.72	+1.41
Red Bluff	8.14	+2.57
<b>Nevada</b>		
Winnemucca	1.35	-0.25
Reno	2.41	+1.10
Tonopah	0.34	-0.80
<b>Arizona</b>		
Phoenix	3.60	+1.28
Flagstaff	2.45	-1.68
<b>New Mexico</b>		
Santa Fe	2.56	-0.93
Roswell	5.49	+1.56
<b>Texas</b>		
Amarillo	8.16	+2.93
Abilene	3.35	-3.36
El Paso	3.72	+1.17
<b>Montana</b>		
Helena	4.30	+1.70
Kalispell	4.82	+0.42
Havre	3.78	+1.48
Miles City	2.31	+0.01
<b>North Dakota</b>		
Williston	3.89	+1.61
<b>Idaho</b>		
Pocatello	4.68	+2.27
Boise	3.32	+0.77
Lewiston	8.01	+4.84
<b>Utah</b>		
Logan	4.25	+0.27
Salt Lake City	3.53	-0.14
Modena	0.76	-1.78
Blanding	2.28	-1.87
<b>Wyoming</b>		
Yellowstone	5.02	+1.43
Sheridan	5.12	+1.70
Lander	1.18	-1.49
Cheyenne	2.11	+0.04
<b>South Dakota</b>		
Rapid City	2.82	+0.41
<b>Nebraska</b>		
North Platte	2.37	-0.68
<b>Colorado</b>		
Denver	2.48	+0.11
Pueblo	0.97	-0.72
Grand Junction	1.67	-0.74
<b>Kansas</b>		
Dodge City	4.47	+0.75



## Around the Range Country



The notes on weather conditions appearing under the names of the various states are furnished by J. Cecil Alter of the U. S. Weather Bureau, and based upon reports and publications of that bureau.

The letters are from interested readers. The Wool Grower welcomes and desires such communications from any part of the country and also invites comments and opinions upon questions relating to the sheep industry and statements of occurrences of importance and significance to wool growers.

### WYOMING

Temperatures have averaged near the seasonal, though the week of Thanksgiving was abnormally cold. Precipitation has been ample generally, and snow has given access to the ranges generally in eastern and northern counties during most of the month. The far western, and southwestern ranges, however, need more snow as the forage has not been accessible. Live stock have done well generally, and feeding has not been heavy. At the end of the month the lower plains areas east of the mountains were mostly bare again, and live stock need moisture. Feed is considered ample everywhere, but is being conserved in northern and western counties.

#### Afton

The weather has been good this fall, but fall feed is short. We feed hay, now selling at \$8 a ton, all during the winter, until April 15, in fact.

Sales of ewes have been made at \$12 for yearlings, \$12.50 for those of mixed ages, and \$7 for aged ones. As high as 12 cents has been paid here for feeder lambs.

The number of ewes to be bred is about the same as in 1925. About 20 per cent of the ewe lambs were held by the sheepmen to replenish their flocks.

Chas. Berg.

#### Gillette

It has been very dry all during the fall

and feed is short. Lambs were a little heavier this year than last. The feeder end sold at home at around 10½ and 11 cents. Practically all of the ewe lambs were kept. Twelve dollars has been given for yearling ewes recently and from \$5 to \$6.50 for old ewes.

I think there will be a small increase in the number of ewes bred this season.

L. J. Gilbert.

#### Bertha

Some November days have been pretty fine, but others have been stormy, with cold winds. There is not very much deep snow yet, however, and it is somewhat warmer now, November 27. About 75 per cent of the sheep are run on the range during the winter and at present the prospects for feed are good. We did not have a very dry summer, but we did have a big frost the last of September. Hay is quoted at \$15 a ton in the stack.

Feeder lambs sold here this fall at up to 11 cents for wethers and 12 cents for lots of mixed ewe and wether lambs. So far as I know there have been no recent transactions in ewes. About the same number will be bred this season and about 85 per cent of the ewe lambs were kept to replace the older ewes in the flocks. Our range can support more sheep than we now have.

Herders are receiving \$60 a month.

Geo. A. Bergren.

### MONTANA

Moderate to heavy precipitation has been general, practically all in the form of snow, depths ranging from a few inches over the eastern portion to several feet in the mountains. Temperatures have been abnormally cold, several days being below zero, though moderate spells have been of some relief. Most live stock are necessarily on feed; there has been no loss nor suffering of consequence reported. Some light shipping has occurred of late.

#### Miles City

We had a very dry summer and fall and the condition of the range is poor;

feed is very short. Four inches of snow fell on November 20.

The breeding bands are about one-third smaller than a year ago, but practically all of the ewe lambs were kept this fall to replace old ewes. Range conditions, however, do not offer enough feed to encourage much of an increase in flock numbers. During the winter about three-fourths of the sheep are fed, the rest being herded on the range. Quotations on hay are around \$10 and \$12 a ton.

Yearling ewes have been purchased at from \$12 to \$12.50; \$6 has taken the old ones and \$8.50 to \$10 has been paid for the mixed lots. Local sales of wether lambs have been reported at 10½ to 11¼ cents, while the ewe end has brought 12½ to 13 cents.

Wages for herders are \$75.

A. M. Ball

#### Big Timber

November has been a stormy month, with lots of snow. There is plenty of feed on the winter range, but the snow has covered it up. All of the sheepmen in this section, however, feed their bands all winter and do not use the range.

As much as \$13.25 has been paid for yearling ewes this fall, up to \$6 being given for the old ewes and \$10 for mixed ages. Feeder lambs sold locally for 10 and 12 cents, the latter price being paid for lots of mixed ewe and wether lambs. Only a few ewe lambs were retained.

More ewes will be bred this season than last. Our range, however, can take care of more sheep than we now have in this district.

Seventy-five dollars is paid to herders.

M. E. Bailey.

#### White Sulphur Springs

We have had an exceptionally good fall after our September storms. The range is above average (November 16), with lots of hay in the country selling at \$10 a ton, including winter range.

The tendency throughout central Montana has been toward better Rambouillet sheep, steering away from the black-faced breeds, except where all the lambs are

sold. Considerable interest has developed in the Lincoln-Rambouillet crossbred bucks during the past year.

Prices on wether lambs were from 10 to 11 cents; ewe lambs, 12 to 13 cents.

Sheep are going into the winter in fine condition. Coyotes in this neighborhood seem to be more numerous than usual, although the government trappers are doing good work.

Russell Manger.

### IDAHO

The weather has been mild and much seeding and other outdoor work has been done. Copious precipitation over the northern portion has kept grazing ranges in good or excellent condition and live stock thrifty. The prolonged drought over the southern portion was relieved by a spell of wet weather recently, but it was so mild no snow is available on the desert ranges. Range feed is only fair as a rule, and is poor around watering places. Live stock in this part of the state are only fair; a considerable amount of feeding has been reported.

### Riggins

Mild weather with plenty of rain has characterized November and the prospect for feed on the winter range is extra good, which is very encouraging as we depend on it for all of our stock during most of the winter season. We never feed over thirty days at the most. Alfalfa hay is priced at \$15 to \$20 a ton.

No selling or buying of ewes has occurred here recently. From \$75 to \$85 is paid herders in this section.

J. F. Bar Company.

### Blackfoot

The first ten days of November were dry, but we have had plenty of rain and snow in the hills since then. Prospects for feed on the winter range are not very good, however, and we shall have to feed hay early. About 90 per cent of the sheep are fed here during the winter, but we like to be as late as possible in starting in. Hay is now quoted at \$7 to \$8 a ton.

Sales of ewes have been made at the

following figures: Yearlings, \$13; aged, \$6 to \$7; mixed ages, \$12.50 to \$13.50.

Up to 11¼ cents was paid here for wether lambs and from 11 to 11½ cents for bunches of mixed ewe and wether lambs. Enough ewe lambs have been kept to keep herds up in good shape.

Herders are being paid from \$75 to \$80 a month.

Michael Barclay.

### Driggs

We have had lots of rain the last month and sheep are doing well.

W. W. Taylor.

### Rupert

It has been dry and cool until a couple of days ago (November 22); since then we have had continued warm rains. The fall range is very poor, in fact, there is practically none. However, the recent rains will help to soften the dry feed. There is practically no green grass yet and it is too late to expect much. Nearly all of the sheep are fed here during the winter months. A few sheep were run on the range last winter, but that was due entirely to the open character of the season. Hay is now selling at \$8 per 422 cubic feet.

A difference of opinion exists as to the number of ewes to be bred this year. Some say there will be more, but I think the number will be the same as it was last year, or a trifle lower. Many old ewes were sent East this fall. I doubt, however, if there are as many ewe lambs in the hands of speculators as last year, but growers here have very few white-faced lambs to keep.

The wether end of the lamb crop sold at home brought from 10½ to 11½ cents, while 12 cents was given for lots of mixed ewes and wethers. Yearlings ewes have changed hands at \$12, \$12.50 and \$13; \$5.50 to \$9 has been paid for old ewes and \$9 to \$12 for the mixed ages.

Herders are getting from \$70 to \$90 a month.

Wm. R. Barber.

### WASHINGTON

Mild, wet weather has prevailed, giving a luxuriant growth to grasses, grains and

other crops. Some grains in the eastern portion advanced nearly to the jointing stage. Snow fell only in the higher mountains. Live stock have continued to do well.

### Yakima

On November 19 we had seven inches of snow. Before that the weather was mild with frosty nights. Now it is thawing. The grass has started nicely on the range and conditions are pretty good. About a fourth of the sheep are fed during the winter, but most of them run on the range and in addition are fed cottonseed cake or grain. Alfalfa hay can be had at \$9 to \$10.

Eleven to twelve cents was paid locally for lots of mixed ewe and wether lambs, while straight wethers went at 10½ cents. Very few of our home-bred ewe lambs are retained for flock purposes, but a good many ewe lambs are shipped in. The early lambs, February's, were heavy. We had a shipment at Chicago the first of July that averaged 85 pounds. The late lambs, however, were from five to eight pounds lighter than usual.

Yearling ewes have been purchased here recently at from \$13.50 to \$14; two-year-olds at \$15; and mixed ages at \$10 to \$13. About the same number of ewes will be bred on the range this season, but there will be an increase of 20 per cent on the ranches. The range will not support more ewes without overcrowding.

H. S. Coffin.

### OREGON

There has been too much rain for farming interests generally, and snow has been piling up in the high mountains. Lowland soils have been too wet to work, though pastures have flourished in the western portion. Live stock have averaged in good condition, though there is need for snow in eastern counties, where forage is only fairly good.

### CALIFORNIA

The month was very dry, causing deterioration of pastures, until the last week, when warm, generally heavy rains fell

(Continued on Page 47)



## SHEEP FARMING IN ENGLAND

A Discussion of Observations during an Extended study of British Sheep Raising

By Henry E. Gardiner, Anaconda, Montana.

During the first six months of this year it was my privilege to visit all of the leading Hampshire flocks in England and to attend the principal live stock shows both in England and Scotland. While Hampshire sheep are well distributed throughout the Island, the majority of the principal flocks are located in the counties of Hampshire and Wiltshire. The number of registered Hampshire sheep in the British Isles is far in excess of that of any other breed.

Sheep raising is regarded as practically essential to successful English farming by the part it plays in helping maintain the fertility of the soil. The feeding over of the land by the sheep and its consequent manuring is one of the regular cycles in the scheme of crop rotation. The farmers who run sheep are divided into two divisions: the ram breeders who supply the ram trade and exhibit at the shows and the commercial breeders who market all their lambs. As lambs cannot be shown that are dropped prior to the first of the year, the ram breeders do not begin lambing until early in January while the commercial breeders as a rule breed to start lambing in December.

On only one farm that I visited in England were there facilities for lambing under shelter. On all the other places lambing is done in the open with the exception of a few temporarily erected wind breaks and lean-tos. During the winter months it rains a great deal and as a result the sheep are not only soaked a good share of the time but they also have to lie in the mud. My respect for the hardiness of the Hampshire Down sheep was measurably increased by what I saw of them during the months of January and February. Despite the fact that the sheep were sometimes wet for weeks at a stretch, they did not seem to be suffering any ill effects from the exposure.

To one accustomed to seeing sheep run on the open range, the confined manner in which the English sheep are handled is most striking. They are kept within the confines of a movable enclosure, made

of sections called hurdles, the year around. When the sheep have eaten all of the forage in a fold they are let into a fresh patch also surrounded by hurdles and the enclosure they have just left is set up ahead of them on fresh feed. In this manner they feed off fields of roots, cabbages, vetches, and other crops.

The lambs are forced along from the start, being allowed to creep to concentrated feeds. Some idea of the rapid growth achieved was strikingly shown by the size of the lambs at the stock show. At the Royal, where most of the lambs shown were between the ages of five and six months, the ram lambs ranged in weight from a hundred and sixty to a hundred and eighty pounds. By Easter lambs are being sold in quantities for butcher. Mutton realizes about double the price it does in this country, which is also true of beef. This, of course, only applies to fresh meat, as imported, chilled and frozen meats sell for much less. The medium by which the English farmer disposes of his farm produce is the auction at the local town markets which is usually held weekly. I was impressed at these markets with the excellence of the auctioneers and the astonishing speed with which they conducted their sales.

The English live stock shows start in May, and end with the Royal, which comes early in July. Every spring there are some five or six large live stock shows held in various places in England. Unlike the custom in this country their shows are held at a different place every year. This means the annual erection of temporary shelters for the exhibits and while it is all very nice in good weather, when it rains, which is about three fourths of the time, the grounds become a quagmire. The sheep that are shown are beautifully fitted and without exception are all brightly colored up with an orange ochre. As all exhibitors use the same coloring one does not observe the different shades and hues so often found in this country where colored sheep are shown. Two men usually do the judging and sometimes a third

is called in. One difference in the English manner of judging is that the sheep are made to walk and considerable weight is laid on their carriage, the argument being that no matter how good a sheep may look and handle, he is of no practical use if unable to carry himself properly.

The type sought by the English judges conforms much to the standard of this country with perhaps the difference that the English sheep are inclined to be more wooled over the face. This is true only of the ram breeders' flocks as the commercial sheep farmers, who correspond to our rangemen, are all strong for an open faced Hampshire.

Honors in the show ring were quite evenly distributed this year, with Mrs. Jervoise, Mr. Goldsmith and Major Morrison dividing the majority of the firsts between them.

When I visited the Pendley flock of Bishops and Measures, Mr. Bishop showed me among his many trophies won in the show ring a magnificent cup which he was awarded at the Smithfield Fat Stock Show in London last winter. Mr. Bishop won this cup with a pen of three Hampshire wether lambs which were not only champions in the Hampshire division but champions over all the champions of the other breeds. To win this cup is considered a great honor as it is one of most contested awards open for sheep breeders in England.

While the average Englishman was impressed when told of outfits in this country whose breeding ewes run well up in the thousands, he seemed to think little of Salisbury Fair where I saw over fourteen thousand ewes sold in one day. Salisbury Fair is an annual sheep sale and show combined. There are prizes for the best pen of a hundred draft ewes, the best pen of a hundred yearlings, and so on. The sheep were not put through a ring but the auctioneer and the crowd moved along from pen to pen. There is also a ram show in conjunction, one unique feature being a class of ram lambs in which there are eight to the pen.



*Sheep in hurdles on the Jervoise Estate*



*Mr. Goldsmith's Show Lambs*



*The ram lamb class at Salisbury Fair*



*Goldsmith's Champion pen of ram lambs at Salisbury Fair*



*Some of Mr. James Flowers' breeding rams*



*Auctioning ewes at Salisbury Fair*

Scenes in the  
Home of  
the  
Hampshire

While mutton, as has been said before, realizes much higher prices in England than in this country wool sells for about a third less over there. The theory of free trade, Democratic papers please copy, which is in practice in England is responsible for the low price as England is a large importer of wool. The English farmers are much more attentive to quality of fleece than are the sheepmen of this country. This is no doubt due to the fact that the farmer's wool clip sells according to its quality. In this country where most of the wool is bought from the grower on purely a basis of weight, the grower is not so interested in the question of grading. It is true of course that a time does come when the wool is graded and discrimination in price is shown in regard to its quality but that is in most cases after it has passed from the sheepman's hands. In England discrimination is shown at the source, which encourages better breeding. Annually in the spring of the year at central points about the country wool sales are held. Every farmer who has wool for sale sends a sack of each kind of his clip to the sale grounds and here it is placed in a tent along with the other samples. Many farmers find it necessary to shear their lambs in order to combat the fly which is a source of much trouble in the summer months. Prior to the sale the wool buyers inspect the different clips making notations regarding their quality, and other important features. The sale is then held by auction in the same tent, the buyers usually bidding for a whole clip at a time. As the best fleeces realize the most the English farmers are very particular as to breeding and the prices that many farmers who are not ram breeders pay for their bucks would seem excessive to a number of stud breeders in this country.

I believe I managed to pass as being as truthful as the average American until one day I told some Englishmen how many sheep a shearer in this country could turn out in a day. From then on my reputation as one who exaggerates for effect as well as intentionally was well established. An English sheep shearer in a nine-hour day thinks he has done a big day's work when he shears forty Hampshire ewes, and besides his sheep are caught and thrown for him and his wool

tied. Of course they do a much better job by far than our shearers but it in no wise justifies such slow work.

The larger ram breeders will sell from a hundred and twenty to a hundred and sixty rams a year. At their principal sale, known as their Home Sale, they usually sell and let about sixty to seventy head. This sale is held by auction on the premises. All the rams are fitted and colored up as if they were going to be shown. Rams that a breeder does not care to sell and yet does not have immediate use for, will be hired out, the amount for which they are hired being determined by auction. The highest figure for the letting of a ram this year was three hundred guineas or \$1500. This was paid to Major Morrison for the use of a ram lamb for thirty days. Last year Major Morrison hired a ram lamb from Mrs. Jervoise for the record price of four hundred guineas. At these sales all the rams disposed of are lambs. In fact there seems to be a deep rooted prejudice against using rams older than a lamb. Only the very outstanding yearlings are bred and the number of bucks in service older than yearlings is practically negligible.

No article regarding English sheep would be complete without a word about the shepherds. Of a farmer's laborers the hardest working and most conscientious and most valuable man is his shepherd. The shepherds are almost a breed in themselves. They grow up helping their fathers tend their employers' sheep and very often succeed their parents or go into the employ of another breeder. They are wonderful judges of sheep and usually the success of the owner as a breeder and exhibitor is largely dependent on his shepherd.

Unfortunately spasmodic outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease continue to occur about the country. Scotland, which had been free for two years until this summer, had a number of outbreaks in May. The proximity to the continent where foot-and-mouth disease is very prevalent and where no measures are taken to combat the disease is no doubt the source of infection for England.

The sheep trade in England has been considerably below that of last year and at the ram sales this year the prices were

down a good deal. All enterprises in England today however are suffering in varying degrees because of the ill effect of an industrial depression which has been aggravated by a prolonged coal strike. With the clearing of England's economic skies the sheep business should revert again to its former prosperous place.

### WINTERING EWE LAMBS

I should like to call attention at this season to the importance of wintering ewe lambs so that they will grow all winter. It is the custom to so feed ewe lambs during the winter that they will just get by and, in most cases, they are no heavier April first than they were December first. It is this poor care that makes the average yearling ewe such a poor producer. As a rule the first lambing from two-year-old ewes is 20 per cent below that of older ewes and again these first lambs at five months are five or six pounds lighter than those from older ewes. I believe most of these poor results are due to the neglect of the ewe lamb the first winter.

It has been proven with dairy cows, where exact returns may be measured, that the heifer that is pushed along and kept in fast growing condition for the first twelve months of her life is the one that makes the best breeder and the best producer for all the years that follow. This is so true that owners of high class dairy heifers now care for them the same as if they were producing cows. What is true of cattle in the way of milk production is true of sheep. It is the heavy-milking ewe that raises the most lambs and the heaviest lambs. Ewes cannot become big milkers unless they are well grown out as ewe lambs. From the standpoint of future production, I believe the yearling ewe that has been well grown out the first winter is worth at shearing time fully \$2 per head more than the one that was just roughed through. In other words, by good care one can make the two-year-old ewe with her first lamb practically as good a ewe as the average three-year-old ewe. Care of the ewe lamb will add one year to the life of the future ewe and that is surely an item worth considering.

These ewe lambs should not only have around three pounds of hay per day the



first winter, but should have about one-half pound of barley. They should weigh 25 pounds more on April first than on December first.

S. W. McClure.

#### ASSISTANCE IN LAMB PUBLICITY GIVEN BY INSTITUTE OF AMERICAN MEAT PACKERS

Much valuable work has been done by the Institute of American Meat Packers in giving publicity to lamb. This body, whose headquarters are in Chicago, is the packers' trade association, and as such handles things of common interest to that branch of the live stock industry. Naturally, a paramount problem with them is to keep an open outlet for the packers' products and to accomplish this many methods have been employed. No cooperative advertising campaign has been initiated yet, as, according to statements made at the recent convention of the packers, it is felt that the auspicious moment has not arrived to raise and use the millions of dollars that very easily could be spent in such an undertaking. Individual packers, of course, have done a great deal of magazine advertising on their own account, a fine example of this being the page used by Swift and Company in the November issue of the *Pictorial Review*, where under the caption, "Shopping for Meat," sixteen cuts of different roasts—"roasts for special meals, roasts for moderate priced meals, and roasts for less expensive meals"—are reproduced, and out of the total, five of them illustrate lamb.

A large portion of the activity of the Institute has been cooperated with that of the National Live Stock and Meat Board. At the request of the latter body, the packers' organization has prepared some exceptionally good copy for advertisements to be distributed to retailers of meat, many of them particularly stressing the use of the less expensive cuts of lamb and other meats. Instructive material on lamb and its merits has likewise been prepared by the Institute for use as news releases. Of particular interest and value to lamb raisers, however, is the series of talks broadcasted by Mr. John C. Cutting, director of the Institute's Depart-

ment of Retail Merchandising. These radio talks were aimed primarily to attract the attention of the housewives and contained a good proportion of facts interspersed with recipes. Space will not permit the complete presentation of Mr. Cutting's addresses, but the following extracts will give an idea of their character:

"Did you get your five pounds of lamb last year?

"If you didn't, that was your own fault, for it was to be had, and what you lost was some other person's gain. To be exact, five pounds and three-tenths of lamb and mutton was the per capita consumption of these delicious meats.

"Lamb Bleats for Recognition' literally because figures quoted as the average consumption are apt to be misleading, for we have not 11,000,000 people eating five pounds of this meat a year. This is attested by the continued activity of the few large lamb markets of American, and the habitual use of the meat by people long accustomed to it, i. e., the English, Greeks, and certain Latin races of southern Europe.

"Many of the peoples mentioned a few seconds ago eat many pounds more than five of lamb and mutton yearly, so it stands to reason that many of the rest of the inhabitants can not get their allotment of five pounds. Figures printed a short while ago state that instead of a widespread general use of lamb, we have 30,000,000 people eating more than half of our production, and 86,000,000 people content with what's left of lamb and mutton for them to get. The section of the country east of Pittsburgh and north of Washington contains about one-quarter of the people of the United States, yet over its market-counters passes perhaps seventy-five per cent of the lamb sold in America. Possibly five per cent of the crop is produced here—not more than that figure. The West produces the lamb, and New England and the East eat it. Of course, we are not losing sight of the lambs produced in a few of the southern states, notably Kentucky.

"But even along the Atlantic Coast, the amount of lamb sold is only one-fifth of the amount of beef. Chicago and Los Angeles are exceptional western cities having a material retail trade in lamb. The latter city uses as much lamb as all the other coast cities combined. It is curious to learn that the Southerner orders beef twelve times to lamb once; the Middle-westerne eats these meats in the ratio of twenty to one, and the man from the Rocky Mountains and beyond, ten to one.\* \* \*

"One of the first things a physician will say to a patient beginning a convalescence is: 'Give her a little lamb broth.' It is a very healthful and nourishing food for invalids, or for those on the mend, as the tailor might chant. Lamb is such a significant food animal that a year or so ago, some of the home economics experts of the Department of Agriculture made an excursion to the Government printing office, where they confessed some of their nutritional secrets to the head printer. The result was a fourteen-page pamphlet entitled, 'Lamb and Mutton and Their Use.' What it doesn't say about lamb and mutton is nobody's business. If you want this little pamphlet, all you've got to do is to scrape five cents together and send it to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. \* \* \*

"Nothing enhances the eating of a dish prepared from lamb as the proper sauce to serve with it. The fat needs an acid to add flavor. Mint sauce commonly goes with roasted lamb and currant jelly with the mature roasts. Capers sauce and spiced fruits are also served with the older meat. The vegetables served with lamb may add to or detract from its tastiness. If you are among those who like to add new and interesting dishes to your meals, try other parts of the lamb, such as heart, liver, kidneys, tongue, brains and 'fries.' These may be prepared similarly to other cuts or into dainty dishes with toast, special sauces and combine with vegetables, such as mushrooms, mint, spinach or onions. \* \* \*

#### COURT DECISION UNFAVORABLE TO EXAMINATION PACKERS' BOOKS BY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

In November of 1923 the Packers and Stockyards Administration wished to place auditors in the offices of three of the large packers for the purpose of inspecting and copying their books of account and records, in order to ascertain whether or not they were being kept in a proper manner, as required by Section 401 of the Packers and Stockyards Act. Upon refusal of the packers to permit the inspection, the Packers and Stockyards Administration in July of 1925 secured mandamus from a district court. Upon appeal by the three packers (Cudahy Packing Company v. U. S., Swift & Company v. U. S., and Wilson & Company v. U. S.) the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit on October 27, 1926, reversed the district court and denied mandamus. Mandamus was asked under Section 9 of the Federal Trade Commission Act which is incorporated in Section 402 of the Packers and Stockyards Act. The Circuit Court pointed out that there was no complaint filed or any proceeding pending under the Packers and Stockyards Act against the packers involved nor was there any allegation of the slightest impropriety in the manner of keeping their books of account and records. Legislative intent to permit unlimited inspection with the right to copy all books and records under such circumstances will not be lightly presumed, the Court said. The packing business although it may be conceded to be impressed with a public interest by the Packers and Stockyards Act, is not impressed with that interest to the extent of

the railroads, inasmuch as there is no authority in the Packers and Stockyards Administration to fix prices. The Packers Act is intended to bring about and maintain fair trade practices. The unlimited inspection of books of account is as unreasonable in the case of packers under the Packers and Stockyards Act as in the case

of corporations generally under the Federal Trade Commission Act, the court said in citing the Baltimore Grain cases (267 U. S., 586). The court held that the demand for inspection was so broadly inclusive as to constitute an unreasonable search and seizure in violation of the Fourth Amendment.

## The Annual Convention of the California Wool Growers Association

The nineteenth annual convention of the California Wool Growers Association was that of a well organized and truly representative state association of sheepmen. During the past four years the California Association has worked steadily and enthusiastically in bringing about closer co-operation between the wool growers living in different sections of the state. The effectiveness of its efforts is best shown in the increase in membership from twenty-five in 1922, when a full-time secretary was employed, to 1600 at the present time.

Mr. A. T. Spencer of Cranmore, California, who succeeded Mr. Ellenwood as president of the association four years ago, asked to be released from that position on account of the pressure of personal business, and Mr. George J. Cleary of Rocklin was the unanimous choice as his successor. Mr. Cleary is manager of the Whitney Estate Company and has been a loyal supporter of the undertakings of the California Association. Mr. J. H. Petersen of Dixon is the new vice-president, while Mr. W. P. Wing continues as secretary of the association.

Preliminary meetings of the board of directors were held on November 4, but the convention proper opened Thursday morning, November 5, at the Palace Hotel, San Francisco, and closed with the usual enjoyable banquet on Saturday evening, November 6.

The program that had been planned by the officers of the association was one that offered a variety of very interesting and beneficial addresses and discussions. The first session was occupied with President Spencer's address, the report of Secretary Wing, and three-minute talks from

the officers of the nine district associations that are affiliated with the state organization.

The cost of sheep production as presented by Mr. Wm. R. Barber of Rupert, Idaho, at the afternoon meeting of



Mr. George J. Cleary of Rocklin, California, the newly elected president of the California Wool Growers Association.

the first day, was very well received by California growers. Mr. Barber has for several years been chairman of the Idaho Association's committee that has secured and compiled reports on cost of production in that state and his talk at the California convention outlined the methods used in such work in Idaho. Mr. C. E. Gibbons, assistant chief marketing spe-

cialist for the United States Department of Agriculture, presented valuable information to the convention in an address on the economic position of the sheep industry. Mr. C. L. Christensen of the Division of Co-operative Marketing of the United States Department of Agriculture, discussed some of the fundamental principles of co-operative marketing; Mr. Walter Humphreys, secretary of the National Association of Wool Manufacturers, spoke on present conditions in the wool manufacturing industry; a review of the work of the Live Stock Market News Service was given by Mr. E. W. Baker of the United States Department of Agriculture; and the market standards of sheep and lambs were presented by Mr. L. B. Burk also of the Department of Agriculture.

The agricultural problems, that are to be presented to the state legislature for consideration and solution were discussed by R. H. Taylor of the Agricultural Legislative Committee of California, and Mr. A. A. Johns, president of the Arizona Wool Growers Association and vice-president of the National Association, gave his views on affairs relating to the public domain. Reports were made on the progress being made in eradicating sheep diseases and controlling predatory animals by the state and federal officials having that work in charge.

The work of the committees was voluminous, forty-six resolutions being prepared for, and adopted by the convention. Of interest to sheepmen generally was the resolution passed recommending that the state legislature be urged to repeal the law passed several years ago which placed a 50-cent tax on all rams shipped into California. When the law was enacted, it was thought that the money collected would be used to find out whether or not the rams taxed were free from disease, but as it has worked out, the money goes interest to sheepmen generally was the California sheepmen feel that such a tax is unjustly discriminatory to sheepmen outside of the state. Another resolution that will cause discussion among all sheepmen places the California Association on

record as favoring commission charges on a percentage basis instead of the present standard rates and asks for consideration of such change at the National convention at Butte. The report of the ram sale committee, in addition to making a few changes in the methods of handling the entries, urged that breeders outside of the state be admitted to the sale only when the California supply of rams of the right quality was not large enough to fill the demand, the restriction to be applied quite rigidly to Hampshires.

The committee on wool marketing approved the principle of co-operative marketing; endorsed the establishment of a wool concentration point at San Francisco; approved the undertaking of the Wool Council of America; and commended Los Angeles for its work in wool manufacturing.

The report of the transportation committee recommended the placing of orders for stock cars as early as possible and the using of the special live stock trains to avoid loss in shrinkage while the lambs are enroute to market, and favored the standardization of live lambs and dressed lamb carcasses.

Other resolutions called upon the state legislature for a new dog law, a stricter trespass law and an appropriation for the extension of the leased wire to convey market information from San Francisco to Los Angeles; endorsed the Hoch bill, which gives support to the Foreign Commerce Service of the U. S. Department of Commerce; commended the Live Stock News Service of the federal government; favored the government's issuing outlook reports and other reports concerning the live stock industry; urged prompt reporting of wool and lamb sales by sheepmen to the office of the secretary in order that the information can be disseminated through the columns of the California Wool Grower and prove beneficial to other producers; opposed the proposed establishment of new national parks; recommended that ten per cent of forest grazing fees be used for water development; favored the Biological Survey system of predatory animal control work and urged larger appropriation for such work; suggested that an investigation be made of the deaths among sheep grazing on rice stubble; and urged the practice of rotation of pastures and inter-cropping to wipe out parasitic diseases, such as stomach worm, lung worm and liver fluke.

In addition to the above, the usual resolutions of appreciation were passed covering the work of the officials of the state and national associations of wool growers and those taking part on the program and otherwise assisting in making the convention a very successful and enjoyable event.

#### ORGANIZATION WORK IN MONTANA

At the close of the district wool growers' meeting held at Dillon, Montana, on November 11, it was decided to form a

local association and since four counties are included, the name of "Southern Montana Wool Growers Association" was selected. Mr. J. E. Morse was chosen as president of the new organization and I. Edinger, Geo. Whitworth, Fred Gilbert and Bert Orr, representing the four sections, were elected vice-presidents. Dillon is the largest wool shipping point in Montana, fifty cars annually being its record.

The wool growers at the Great Falls meeting organized the North Central Montana Wool Growers Association, in which six counties are incorporated. They elected Roy F. Clary, president; J. H. Evers of Fort Benton, vice-president; and John Baucus, secretary-treasurer. Messrs. J. B. Taylor, V. F. Blankenbaker, T. O. Larson, Albert Goedderts, Donald Wilson and R. R. Leech represent each of the six counties on the board of directors.

The series of twelve district meetings just concluded by the Montana Wool Growers Association were attended by a total of 593 wool growers, representing 790,000 sheep.

M. E. Stebbins, Secretary  
Montana Wool Growers Assn.

#### FURTHER ORGANIZATION OF WOOL COUNCIL OF AMERICA

As yet no permanent organization has been effected by the Wool Council of America and just when it is to occur is not known. The Council, as indicated in the preface to Mr. R. A. Ward's discussion of "Wear Wool for Health" in the September issue of the National Wool Grower, is composed of ten men representing the five principal wool trade and manufacturing associations, and came into existence as the result of several months' investigation by a special publicity committee as to the feasibility and desirability of advertising wool in a general and cooperative way.

The first meeting of the Council was held about the middle of August and a second meeting on September 28. On the latter date articles of association were adopted, which gave the object and scope of the activity of the organization in the following words: "The object of the Council shall be to promote the welfare of the industries interested in wool and

its products. Its activities shall be economic in character, including trade research and the consideration of problems affecting the industry. Legislative and political questions shall be excluded from its field of activity." No specific reference is made of the supposedly primary object of the organization; namely, a national advertising campaign.

The appointment by the Council of a board of directors, twenty-four at least, was called for in the articles of association, without doubt for the purpose of giving a national aspect to the organization. Such a board has been chosen and a meeting held on October 19. At that time it was decided that Mr. Alban Eavenson of the Philadelphia Wool and Textile Association, as the temporary chairman of the body, should appoint a committee to make a thorough study of the needs of the industry. The preliminary investigation made by the publicity committee which resulted in the formation of the Wool Council of America is held to be not broad enough nor detailed enough to furnish proper foundation for the work to be undertaken. The committee to handle the research work has not been appointed yet.

Disappointment and complaints have been registered on account of the slowness with which the new body is functioning. It has been pointed out, however, that it is very difficult to secure complete harmony among so many different branches of the industry and the individual firms in the various groups without a great deal of discussion and compromise, and the conversion to the undertaking of all those interested is necessary in order to obtain the vast amount of money that will be required to put the thing over successfully. No statement has been made thus far as to how or when the collection of money is to be made.

Impetus has been given the undertaking recently by the announcement on November 16 by Mr. Andrew G. Pierce, president of the American Woolen Company, that his company would support the Wool Council in its work. This action of the American Woolen Company, it is claimed, will lead to the conversion of a large number of other firms to the endeavor.



# The 1926 Lamb Market and Its Lessons to Growers

**Peculiar Features of the Season's Business---Price Fluctuation Caused by Irregular Distribution**

A study of the records of the markets for the year now closing is of unusual interest from the fact that the facilities of the lamb trade have been called upon to handle a supply of lambs larger by two million head than the product of 1925.

In the July report of its estimate of this increase, the United States Department of Agriculture considered that the actual increase over 1925 as found in the thirteen western states was 2,450,000, while in the native lamb states there was a decline of 150,000 or 2 per cent. The receipts reported from 64 markets during the first nine months of 1926 amounted to 17,155,000 or 10 per cent above that of the corresponding part of 1925. The market receipts are, however, not wholly reliable as indicators of the actual production. As is well known, a large proportion of the receipts at some markets are reshipped and counted at other eastern points. Also, the lambs purchased by feeders at stockyard markets and returned to the same or some other slaughtering points later on are necessarily counted twice in the government reports. At the same time the figures are quite useful for comparing one year with another or one month's business with the preceding or succeeding month of the same year.

One precaution needs to be exercised in connection with the study of the 1926 statistics. A larger proportion of the feeder lambs of this crop went through the stockyards markets than was the case in the preceding year. Also, the proportion of feeders in the production in the range states was larger during the season just closing. These facts call for the making of some allowances in comparing figures of the last two years as relating to market receipts and feeder shipments from markets.

The most dependable basis for comparison of the actual production of the two years is found in the official figures for the slaughter of lambs. During the nine months ending with the close of September, 1926, the number slaughtered at 64 markets was 700,000 or 9 per cent

above the number reported for the same part of 1925, and also considerably above the average during the past five years.

The slaughter records for June and the succeeding months can be regarded as fairly reliable in showing the relationships of the last two years' business. In June, 1926, the increase in the number slaughtered over that for June, 1925, was 81,565; in July, 1926, there was a decrease of 29,391 from that of July, 1925; in August the increase was 61,500; in September, 138,488; in October 84,378.

The following is the record of the federally inspected slaughter for these months during 1925 and 1926:

	1926	1925
June .....	1,080,886	999,321
July .....	1,041,683	1,071,074
August .....	1,093,251	1,031,751
September .....	1,224,325	1,085,837
October .....	1,167,451	1,083,073

## Strength of the Market

The fact that prices have been as steady as they have been and have failed to reach very low levels in the face of such increased production and marketing is strong evidence of the strength of demand both from consumers and from farmer feeders in the central and eastern corn growing states. It is admitted on all sides that it was the farmer demand that sustained the market. Colorado and Nebraska waited until

late in the season in the hope of buying at lower figures, which were expected to result from a marketing of the large supply. While they were waiting the farmers who had come out satisfactorily on the handling of 1925 feeders were regularly at the markets to buy and brought with them a large number of their neighbors who are anxious to use lambs for the manufacturing of surplus forage and grain. Had it not been for this demand it is quite certain that the western feeders would have made their purchases at much lower figures than they finally paid. With a general low price level for feeders the fat lamb prices must inevitably have declined in something like the same proportion. The character of the feeder lamb demand in 1927 will largely be determined by the success attending the operations of these farmers in the states that have absorbed such a large part of the thin lambs of the crop of 1926.

It is apparent that a much larger quantity of lamb has gone into consumption in the fall months of 1926 than was taken one year previous. There is reassurance in this fact for the lamb grower.

Records of daily fluctuations in receipts and prices furnish the only reliable basis for study of relationship of the distribution of supplies to price changes. The chart shows the daily fluctuations in re-

**Weekly Receipts and Slaughter at Four Markets**

	CHICAGO		OMAHA		KANSAS CITY		DENVER	
	Rcpts.	Slghtr.	Rcpts.	Slghtr.	Rcpts.	Slghtr.	Rcpts.	Slghtr.
August 2-7.....	68,456	45,469	69,967	31,297	29,052	21,184	4,706	1,242
" 9-14.....	83,483	59,232	79,453	30,373	39,899	27,761	9,380	2,723
" 16-21.....	78,445	50,329	83,216	34,721	26,666	17,961	16,000	3,470
" 23-28.....	95,240	55,197	95,816	34,338	35,486	21,148	24,733	3,924
" 30 to Sept 4.....	103,502	59,981	99,428	40,434	36,172	23,018	19,909	645
September 6-11.....	97,580	48,208	115,202	40,919	62,800	33,618	63,121	6,872
" 13-18.....	148,528	76,707	122,034	44,714	71,676	42,627	69,162	5,243
" 20-25.....	129,217	66,239	130,008	37,849	61,163	35,652	66,075	4,230
" 27 to Oct. 2.....	138,651	57,198	123,809	46,370	79,096	42,237	65,728	5,908
October 4-9.....	116,596	47,527	74,616	27,728	84,528	38,242	80,331	6,747
" 11-16.....	141,245	72,553	73,730	30,094	51,634	28,506	122,533	7,255
" 18-23.....	99,894	57,597	60,996	27,423	55,579	30,777	140,284	6,023
" 25-30.....	90,191	56,357	39,900	18,321	26,212	16,906	105,627	5,199



of sending the heavy loads of dressed lamb to the eastern markets. At the time the effect of that action was felt at Chicago it was added to by the season's largest run on September 27, when 46,000 head were unloaded at the Chicago yards.

It is easily possible to recognize all range conditions that determine the dates of loading lambs in western states and at the same time to lay out a schedule for shipments from various sections in a way that would bring about deliveries at the market at a much more uniform rate than was the case in 1926. This greater uniformity of deliveries even within the necessarily heavy shipping season would go a long way to steady prices. It would permit stockyard companies and commission men to give better service. It

would allow the packers to operate at a more regular rate and not be called upon to increase their activities by 50 per cent as was the case at Chicago during the week of September 13th to 18th. The more uniform receipts at the markets would also deliver carcasses to the consuming centers at a more even rate and enable both wholesalers and retailers to operate on a more satisfactory basis. Directly and indirectly a large part of the benefits resulting to these interests would reach both consumers and producers.

#### The Daily Price Changes

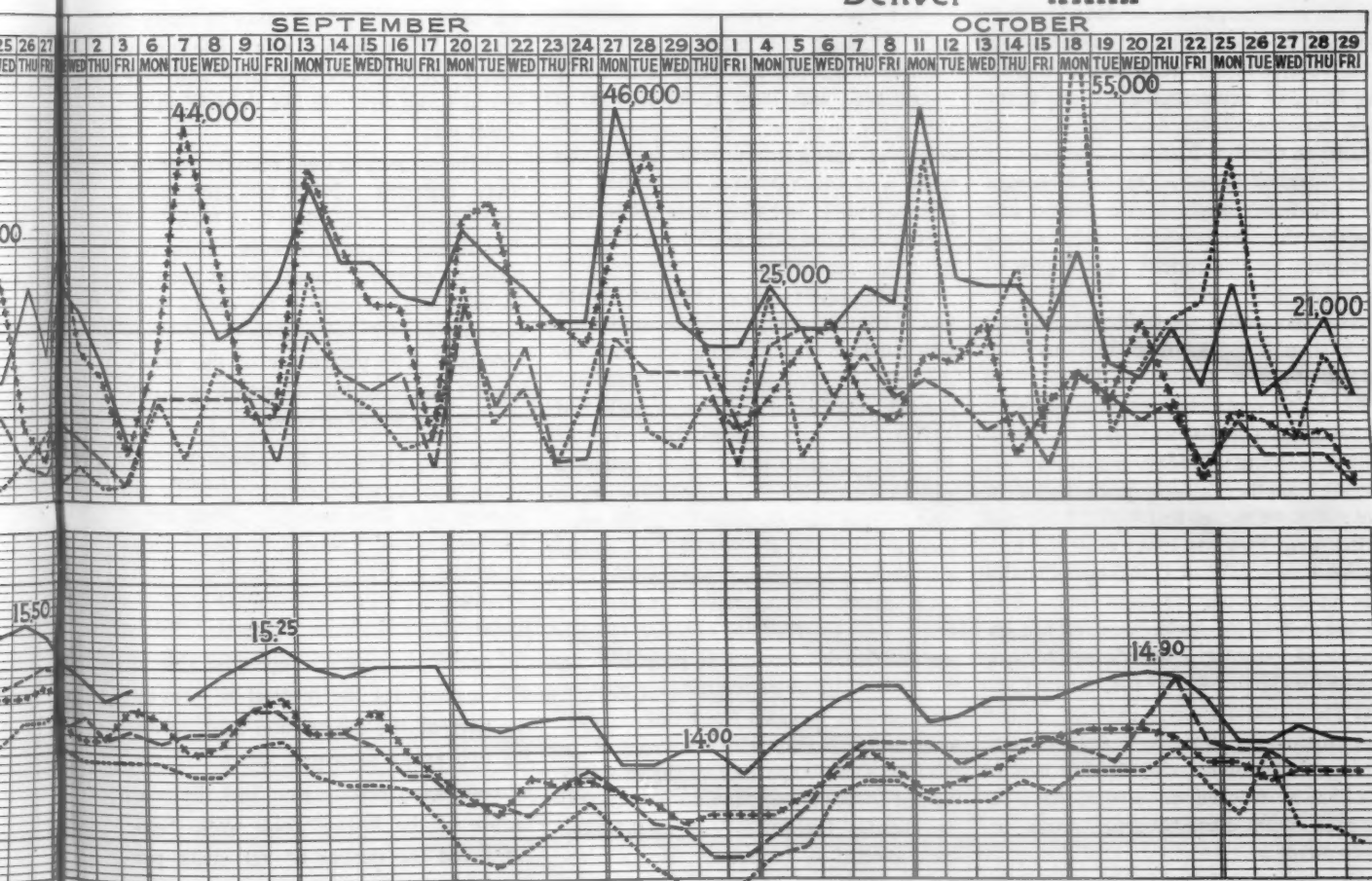
The upper part of the chart shows the daily receipts of sheep and lambs from July 6 to October 29 at Chicago, Omaha, Kansas City and Denver.

A large proportion of the Denver receipts are forwarded to other markets. Lambs shipped direct to packers from western markets are counted in the receipts at their destinations when they pass through the stockyards. If they go direct to the killing plants they do not show in the receipts.

The lower part of the chart shows the top prices quoted daily for fat lambs at each of the markets. In case of declining markets the top figure quoted does not always represent the full amount of the change in price. Under such conditions the sorting is usually heavier than on a strong market. On this account the downward turns of the price lines hardly represent the full alteration in prices. However, they serve amply well to compare

Chicago, Omaha, Kansas City and Denver  
Shipping Season

LEGEND  
Chicago ———  
Omaha + + + +  
Kansas City - - - -  
Denver . . . . .





the times and extent of the major price fluctuations.

At Chicago the July market opened with a quotation of \$15.25 and a run of 15,000 head. On that day Kansas City had only 4000 head, and reported that as high as \$15.50 was paid. On the following Monday, July 12, Chicago had its large run up to that date with 25,000 head. Omaha had only 9000 and Kansas City 5000. Chicago prices lost 25 cents from the close of the previous week and 75 cents from the price quoted one week before. Omaha and Kansas City even with their light receipts dropped correspondingly. On Monday July 19, Chicago had only 11,000, Omaha 13,300 and Kansas City 6000. Prices were stronger at the latter two markets. On July 22, Chicago quoted \$15.10, which was the season's high price at that market until August 26, when \$15.50 was reached.

September opened at the \$15.00 level and stayed in that neighborhood until a decline was inaugurated on Monday, September 20. In fairness it is necessary to observe that prices declined only slightly on Monday, September 13, under a run that brought 37,000 head to Chicago, 39,000 to Omaha, 20,000 to Kansas City and 27,000 to Denver. This week brought the heaviest receipts of the season and the fact that prices did so well is strong testimony to the underlying strength of demand.

The succeeding week brought 25,000 fewer lambs to the four markets and 19,000 fewer at Chicago. Prices were lower by 65 cents at Chicago and smaller amounts at Omaha and Kansas City. The succeeding Monday, September 27, brought another serious price break of the season. Chicago had 46,000 head and prices were 55 cents lower than the preceding Friday. With 31,000 head Omaha was reported as only 15 cents lower. The lowest spot of the season was reached on Friday, October 1st, at \$13.75 for Chicago, \$13.25 for Omaha, \$12.75 for Kansas City and \$12.40 for Denver. October opened and closed very close to \$14.00, though during the middle part of the month \$14.75 was reached on several days at Chicago with corresponding prices at other points.

The low spot of the period covered in

the chart was reached on Friday, October 1. At the close of the previous week, Chicago had a price of \$14.40; Monday, September 27, showed 46,000 head in the pens at Chicago and 31,000 at Omaha. The price decline on that day was 55 cents per hundredweight at Chicago and less at the other markets. This was one of the events that have so strongly suggested the idea that Omaha and Kansas City frequently could receive some of Chicago's peak load and permit the three markets to handle their combined receipts at steadier prices instead of all being forced lower as a result of the overloading in the Chicago yards.

The heavy runs of September 27 were followed on Tuesday by receipts almost as large at each of the markets. Prices remained equal to those of Monday and improved slightly during the middle of the week at Chicago and Omaha, while dropping further at the other two markets. The decline of the last week in September caused shippers and commission men to change their plans. On Monday, October 4, the Chicago receipts were only 25,000 head with from 12,000 to 4000 at the other markets. The combined receipts of the four markets during this week were 50,000 head less than the previous week, but they were distributed quite evenly over the five days and prices advanced materially.

On Monday, October 11, however, the lesson of two weeks previous had been overlooked, or the planning and cooperation of the commission men was suspended. On that day Chicago again had 46,000 with prices off to the extent of 40 cents; Omaha had only 17,000 and and escaped with a decline of only 25 cents. Had the combined 63,000 head been divided equally between these two markets it is probable, if not certain, that both places would have maintained steady prices. That the October 11 high run and breaks were due to poor work on the part of Chicago commission men or shippers was revealed the following day, when only 26,000 head arrived. With receipts of 36,000 on each of the two days instead of 46,000 on Monday and 26,000 on Tuesday the price drop would have been averted in large part, if not altogether.

The charted records of the season's range marketing confirms and reinforces the conclusions expressed in previous discussions in the Wool Grower. The market on the whole can be considered as having been reasonably good. There were a number of serious price declines, which caused large losses to many shippers. In every case it is evident that these declines could have been mainly avoided by a better distribution of the lambs between the different markets and over the different days of the week, particularly at Chicago.

It is worth while to return to the two weeks' period September 20 to October 1, for an examination of the work done at Chicago in connection with the reasonable distribution of supplies over different days of the week. On Monday, September 20, there was a price drop which was mainly recovered during the succeeding four days. The receipts during these days were well distributed. The fact that there was some loss in price cannot be charged against the commission men. The supply visible for the week was large and they spread it out over the five days in an efficient way.

In the succeeding week matters were entirely different. Nine thousand more lambs were to come than had been handled during the previous week. However, Monday morning found 46,000 head in the pens or 33 per cent of the week's business instead of 25 per cent on the previous Monday. The percentage of the week's receipts placed on the market on each day of these two weeks is shown:

	September 20 to 24	September 27 to October 1
Monday .....	25 per cent	33 per cent
Tuesday.. .....	22 " "	25 " "
Wednesday ....	19 " "	15 " "
Thursday .....	17 " "	13 " "
Friday .....	17 " "	13 " "

The Wool Grower is not now able to give a cause for the reversal of form on the part of the commission men during the two weeks presented above. It can be considered certain that had the procedure of the first of these weeks been continued the decline of 60 cents per hundredweight might have been pre-

vented. The price decline of that week when applied to the large number of lambs sold would represent a loss to shippers that would equal several times the amount necessary to support organization work for better marketing and for all other purposes.

A year ago the Wool Grower took the position that it was useless, for the present at least, to attempt to distribute supplies by a regulation of the times of loading at western points. It was then stated that effective planning and cooperation by commission salesmen at Chicago, supported by the shippers, could effect a sufficient equalization of the runs to prevent the largest part of the price declines regularly experienced in September and Oc-

tober. The 1926 records substantiate this position. A shipper need but to examine the chart for September 27 to be convinced that distribution between Chicago and Omaha and on different days at Chicago is not being done as it should or as it could be done by closer cooperation of the commission men in deciding as to the numbers of cars to be brought in from the feeding stations for the Monday market. It is possible that the shippers themselves are responsible for this lack of action on the part of the commission men. If so, they must remember that they are the ones who suffer the loss and who can bring about the action by their commission men that is necessary to produce much more stable markets.

to acquaint himself with all of the factors which go toward the determination of wool values and consequently he must be content with a superficial knowledge of the product he has for sale. For this reason it is doubtful if the average wool grower would be able to dispose of his clip more advantageously, even with a knowledge of the shrinkage, than he could without that knowledge. The buyers know their business.

4. The seasonal variation in the shrinkage of wool is very great. A clip may shrink 62 per cent this year but next year the shrinkage may be 60 per cent or 64 per cent. Many wool growers do not understand this and hence may think that a single test is applicable over any period of time.

5. Making up samples for testing shrinkage of wool is not a simple procedure. It is doubtful if the rank and file of growers would secure a truly representative sample, even with sets of directions. Every lock of wool which is handled loses dirt and the shrinkage becomes lighter; the more the sample is handled the more dirt is lost. Then, too, there is a natural tendency on the part of any wool grower or any one else to exclude from a sample the tags, belly wool, stained, seedy, and other undesirable portions of the fleece. In scouring individual fleeces for advanced registry at the University of California, we considered it inadvisable to attempt to extract a sample which would represent the fleece and hence designed a special machine which thoroughly mixes up each fleece before the sampling is done. The dirt which is lost is accurately determined. Three samples are then scoured and the average shrinkage of the three is taken as the true shrinkage. But even with this rather elaborate precaution, we occasionally find it necessary to run a second set of three samples.

6. The function of the United States Department of Agriculture should be the protection and advancement of the industry as a whole. The solutions of the problems of the individual should be left to the county farm adviser if the individual cannot solve his problems himself. No one will deny the right of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics to aid the individual in the field, but many will ques-

## Free Wool Scouring By Uncle Sam

By J. F. Wilson

The Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the United States Department of Agriculture has recently announced a new service to wool growers. The bureau will scour, free of charge, samples of wool submitted by individual growers anywhere in the United States, will render a report on the shrinkage and return the samples to the growers who submit them. Extension divisions in various colleges of agriculture have been asked to announce the new service through the farm advisers or county agents.

The Bureau of Agricultural Economics is undoubtedly of the opinion that this work constitutes a service to the sheepman which is of great value to him economically. Since the scouring is done by this particular bureau, it is probably carried on in the belief that the information given to the wool grower will materially assist him in the direct sale of his wool to a wool buyer. To many growers and to many extension workers, free scouring of wool samples is very appealing. No doubt many of them will give the work unqualified support.

In my own opinion this service may prove to be of doubtful value. My reasons for taking this stand are as follows:

1. When wool is sold through a cooperative marketing agency, the grower does not need a shrinkage test on his wool.

Experts in the employ of the cooperatives not only estimate the shrinkage closely, but give to the grower much other information relative to his clip which he cannot obtain from the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

2. The United States Department of Agriculture has endorsed the principle of cooperative marketing and has extended aid and advice to cooperatives. The sheepmen who want shrinkage tests run are very largely men who do not patronize cooperatives and who want to know the shrinkage of their wools in order to fortify their arguments with the wool buyer. By thus furnishing growers with information which will be used in the direct sale of wool, the bureau is not furthering the interests of cooperative marketing, the principles of which are endorsed by the Department of Commerce.

3. Although the wool growers of the United States are in the main a highly intelligent group of men, few of them have any intimate knowledge of wool. It is probable that there is no agricultural commodity concerning which the producer knows so little as he knows about wool. This statement is not to the discredit of the sheepman nor is it in any sense a reflection on his mental capacity. He is too busy with the problems of production to enable him to spend the time necessary

tion the soundness of the policy of extending individual aid, especially when there are so many questions involving the entire industry, which are yet to be answered.

I am not unmindful of the great work which the Bureau of Agricultural Economics has done for the wool grower along other lines. The establishment of official standard grades of wool and tops is a real accomplishment. I am still open-minded on the subject of scouring samples of wool for individuals, in the sense that I am willing to be shown its value. But at present I am doubtful whether the results will warrant the effort.

### THE SENATE FABRIC BILL

A textile trade paper published in New York makes the announcement that neither of the fabric bills pending in Congress is likely to become law during the session which opens on December 6, and which must close by March 4.

Senators and congressmen generally seem to be of the opinion that little business besides the handling of the appropriation bills is likely to be attempted this winter. There will be a renewal of effort to pass some legislation designed for agricultural relief. This matter is apt to involve many political aspects and to bring about some manipulations for political advantage in the presidential campaign of 1928.

The Capper fabric bill occupies a place well toward the top of the calendar in the Senate. Agreement was refused in the last session to the consideration of this bill under unanimous consent procedure. It may, however, be urged and brought to a vote in the regular course of affairs during the coming session. In the event the bill should pass the Senate, a good deal of discussion is likely to accompany its consideration in the House of Representatives. The House has upon its calendar the Merritt bill, which is a modification of the original measure as proposed by the manufacturers and the opposition to the Capper bill. The two bills have very little in common and considerable time would be required in either branch of Congress to prepare a substitute or com-

promise measure that would have any prospect of being acceptable to the legislators who have been responsible for the advancement of the Merritt and Capper bills.

### WOOL PRODUCTION RECORD OF BEAVERHEAD COUNTY, MONT.

Beaverhead, Montana's leading live stock county, produced 2,250,081 pounds of wool in 1926, according to figures compiled in the First National Wool Warehouse Company. The huge clip was contained in 6,612 bags and required 63 railroad cars for shipment. Practically the entire clip was shipped to Boston on consignment and growers of this section will receive approximately \$900,000. The prices averaged between 35 and 40 cents.

This is the largest clip since 1919 when the county produced 2,855,280 pounds of wool, but previously this mark was exceeded every year from 1911 to 1919 with the exception of 1914. The banner years were in 1916 and 1917 when 3,627,725 and 3,326,662 pounds of wool were clipped. The year 1917 brought the biggest returns in history with \$1,659,117, but though the clip in 1918 was only slightly over 3,000,000 pounds the war prices brought \$1,600,000 to wool growers of Beaverhead County.

From 1916 to 1919 the total proceeds from the county clip were well over \$1,000,000 a year, but with the shipment of thousands of head of sheep in the hard winter of '19-'20, combined with post war deflation of prices, the proceeds dropped to less than \$400,000 though almost 2,000,000 pounds of wool was clipped here.

L. S.

### IDAHO COUNTY GETS REDUCTION IN GRAZING LAND ASSESSMENTS

The stockmen of Caribou County, Idaho, recently secured a reduction of 30 per cent in the assessment values placed upon grazing lands.

It is the custom of Idaho assessors to fix a value upon property and to report the same to the commissioners of the county by whom it usually is approved. Such values are then reviewed by the

State Board of Equalization and by them approved in most cases.

Stockmen of Caribou County, whose grazing lands had for some time been assessed at \$6 per acre, recently conferred with their assessor and presented numerous cases in which land so assessed had been transferred at around \$2 an acre. As a result of the representations, which were continued over a considerable period of time, the last assessment has been placed at a figure that represents a very material reduction in the amount of taxes that will be paid next year upon such lands.

In Clark County, Idaho, range lands assessed at from \$4 to \$6 an acre recently have been sold at \$1.50 to \$2 per acre. In several other counties lands have been selling at from one-third to one-half their assessed values.

Donald McLean.

### MEETING OF AMERICAN RAMBOUILLET ASSOCIATION

After a mutton chop dinner at St. Hubert's inn and short informal program the association launched into a four-hour business session. Most of the time was spent in selecting judges for 1927 International and American Royal shows, together with election of officers.

John Webb, Indianapolis, was elected judge of the 1927 International and H. F. Rhinehart of Idaho was selected to judge at the American Royal.

Frank Bullard, Woodland, Cal., was re-elected president, without opposition. C. N. Arnett, Bozeman, Mont., was elected vice president by a majority of two votes over Fred Ellis, Mexico, Mo., former vice president. Three ballots were taken to elect a vice president. John Webb was re-elected treasurer, unopposed, and Fred Orth, McGuffy, Ohio, and Joe King, Laramie, Wyo., were re-elected to the board of directors to succeed themselves. A contest developed when the association attempted to fill the place of Mr. Madsen of Utah, a former member of the board.

The west placed the name of T. C. Drisdall, Del Rio, Tex., and the east nominated Daniel P. Lish, Markle, Ind. Mr. Drisdall was elected by a majority of one vote.



## THE SENATE GRAZING BILL

Aid to stabilization of the live stock industry through suitable legislation pertaining to grazing on government lands was advocated by President Coolidge in his annual message to the Congress, delivered on December 7. The President said:

"A survey should be made of the relation of government grazing lands to the live stock industry. Additional legislation is desirable more definitely to establish the place of grazing in the administration of the national forests, properly subordinated to their functions of producing timber and conserving the water supply. Over 180,000,000 acres of grazing lands are still pastured as commons in the public domain with little or no regulation. This has made their use so uncertain that it has contributed greatly to the instability of the live stock industry. Very little of this land is suited to settlement or private ownership. Some plan ought to be adopted for its use in grazing, corresponding broadly to that already successfully applied to the national forests."

Although the President again refers to a survey, his recommendations as to legislation appear to have in mind the passage of the grazing bill now on the Senate calendar. This bill was reported to the Senate last March by unanimous vote of the United States Senate Committee on Public Lands and Surveys, of which Senator Stanfield of Oregon is chairman. This bill, which is listed as Senate Bill 2584, was endorsed by the Secretary of Agriculture and by the Secretary of the Interior. It is to be expected that the bill will become law at this session unless there is strong opposition from some live stock interests.

The bill would do for national forest grazing what the President refers to, "more definitely to establish the place of grazing in the administration of the national forests." It would legalize grazing. Grazing of live stock on national forest lands now is established only on the basis of regulations drawn up by officers of the Forest Service and approved by the Secretary of Agriculture. What a secretary of Agriculture may do in respect to forest grazing can be undone or changed entirely by the same or by a later Secretary of Agriculture. There is now no law in regard to grazing. The proposed law would make it incumbent upon the Department of Agriculture always to recognize and continue the grazing of live stock as one of the uses of the forests.

Senate Bill 2584, as now before the Senate, is a revised form of the measure bearing the same number which was introduced last January, and discussed at the Boise convention and printed in the February issue of the National Wool Grower. The changes in the language were chiefly made to assure representatives of the Department of Agriculture, and others, that the wishes of the stockmen were not opposed to full conservation of timber and water and to preferential regard for those resources on such forest lands as have, or promise to have, a real value as sources of timber or water. The other alterations in the text of the bill are in some cases improvements from the stockmen's viewpoint. The 'area allotment' idea is retained as a feature of the grazing policy to be laid down in law for observance by executive officers in the following words:

"To grant grazing privileges upon definite allotments within the forest when local conditions or the administration of grazing privileges make such form of contract, and to allow permittees of such privileges the benefits of any increase, as determined by the Secretary, in the grazing capacity of their allotments."

Greatest difficulty was found in framing a provision concerning the national policy in respect to grazing fees in a way that would give protection to permittees and yet not terminate negotiations with the representatives of the Department of Agriculture and result in official opposition to any legislation on forest grazing. As finally written and now standing in the Senate bill, Section 309 provides that

"The Secretary shall determine and fix the fees to be charged for grazing under any contract made or permit continued under this title. Such fees shall

"(1) Be payable annually or seasonally on dates fixed by the Secretary;

"(2) Be fixed with due regard to the stable value, seasonal or annual, of the grazing, and in no case shall exceed such value;

"(3) Be fixed with regard to the general effect on ranch property used in connection with grazing on the forests; and

"(4) Be moderate, with adequate allowance for the restrictions and duties imposed upon the permittee for the protection of the resources of the forests."

Upon the strong advice of western members of the Senate committee who are fully appreciative of grazing administration problems, the provisions on appeals in the present bill (Section 313) were drafted to read as follows:

"The Secretary is authorized to provide by regulation for local grazing boards, a majority of whose members shall be selected by the permittees on a national forest or group of national forests. In respect of the forest or group of forests for which a board created by the Secretary, it shall (a) cooperate with the Secretary in the administration of this Act and (b) hear, investigate, and decide any appeal filed with it by a permittee or applicant for grazing privileges from any decision of a duly authorized agent of the Secretary pertaining to the administration of this Act and/or any regulation made thereunder. The board shall make a report in writing of its findings of fact and of its decision to the Secretary or such officer as he may designate. The Secretary shall by regulation prescribe the manner in which appeals shall be taken to him from any decision of any grazing board. Unless such appeal is taken as prescribed by the Secretary, the decision of the grazing board shall be final."

On the matters of fees and appeals the language of the present bill falls short of what was in the minds of many permittees who have studied the subject. It may be possible to strengthen these features of the bill during its consideration by Congress, or if not, to secure amendments in the future.

As the bill stands it legalizes and ensures the continuation of grazing of forest lands. It provides for the first time, a law on grazing to be followed by the department and prescribes, in broad terms it is true, a policy with which the regulations and official acts of the bureau must accord. It has the endorsement of the administration and can become law. If not passed at this time, it is probable that many years will pass before the features of forest grazing policies will be laid down in the federal statutes.

The Senate grazing bill also contains provisions for setting up of a leasing plan under local option on the public domain, in the public land states except Wyoming. If sentiment in other states is strongly against the making possible of any departure from the present status of grazing use of the public domain, it should not be difficult for them to secure exemption when the bill comes to a vote, as was

done by Wyoming's expression of opinion before and during the drafting of the present measure.

The principal features of the title of the bill relating to the public domain are:

Provision for the establishment of leasing districts only when petitioned for by a majority of users of the lands in the proposed district and when also approved by the Secretary of the Interior.

Before approving such a petition, the Secretary would be required to advertise such proposed action for six weeks in the county in which the district would be established, thereby giving opportunity for the minority to present objections to such action. The only persons entitled to sign such petition or to receive a lease are those owning more than ten head of live stock and who have previously used the land concerned. Leasing districts once established can be added to by the Secretary but large areas could be added only upon petition of live stock raisers concerned. Provisions are included for exchange of lands in private or state ownership of approximately equal area and of value not less than that of the public lands exchanged.

Leases would go to users of the range within the district and would be "as nearly identical in respect of location, extent of usage, and kind of stock, with the customary usage of such users as is consistent with the efficient administration of such district." The provisions regarding fees are substantially the same as included in the forest section of the bill. A lessee would be given ninety days from the date of termination of the lease to remove any range improvements placed on the land by himself, or if he did not desire to remove them, the land office would require a new lessee to pay the value of such improvements to the former occupant.

#### WOOL MARKETING ON THE PACIFIC COAST

Enterprising California citizens are extending their efforts to secure the handling and marketing of larger volumes of wool at their ports. For several years Portland has been a considerable factor in the wool world having special oppor-

tunity in the considerable quantities of wool manufactured in the territory surrounding that city. Developments in western coast territory reported in the Wool Grower show that the manufacturing, warehouse, and shipping interests of San Francisco are making progress in their efforts to restore their city to its earlier important place as a wool handling center.

The Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce has occupied itself in studying the prospects for creating a marketing and shipping center for wools growing in the trade and shipping territory of that city. A special committee on wool has recently rendered a report to the board of directors of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce. This report has been printed for distribution to those sending requests therefor to the chamber.

The Los Angeles report presents an exhibit of freight rates on wool now in effect for direct shipment by rail to Boston, in contrast with the combination of railroad rates to Los Angeles and steamship rates from that port to Boston. On the basis of greatest economy of transportation the committee shows that there should move through the Los Angeles port all of the wools originated in a territory extending as far north as Salt Lake City and comprising about one-third of the production of southern and western Utah. The Los Angeles territory would also include the Arizona sections west of Flagstaff and Phoenix, one-half of Nevada and a large part of southern California. It was claimed that one-fourth of the wool produced in the United States "is properly involved in the discussion of Los Angeles' place in the wool industry."

Los Angeles has two federally licensed wool warehouses, the Union Terminal Warehouse Company and the Westland Warehouse, the latter having 300,000 square feet of space in reinforced concrete buildings in which there is in effect an insurance rate on wool of 12 cents per \$100 per annum.

The present wool consuming concerns in the Los Angeles territory include the Pioneer Pacific Worsted Mills, the Standard Felt Company, and Worth Bros., representing an annual consumption of

over three million pounds of grease wool. Among the committee's recommendations to the chamber is included a proposal for the formation of a Los Angeles Wool Trade Association.

#### HAMPSHIRE SHEEP ASSOCIATION MEETING

President Minnie W. Miller of Thousand Springs Ranch, Wendell, Idaho, called to order the 37th annual meeting of the American Hampshire Sheep Association at the stockyards in Chicago on December 1. The treasurer's report from the year ending November 25, showed total receipts amounting to \$13,615, expenditures \$12,492, and a balance on hand of \$10,134. A. R. Hamilton, Pittsburg, Pa., reported for the committee on revision of the association's constitution. It was voted to submit copies of the proposed amended constitution, prepared by Mr. Hamilton, to members for suggestions. Dr. H. C. Gardiner of Montana, as chairman of the committee on ear tags and registration, said that the present aluminum tag was far superior to the heavier tags previously used. At the conclusion of compiling data for the present volume of the flockbook, the association will return to its old system of continuous numerical numbering. Dr. Gardiner believed that the association should look with favor on an effort to produce Hampshires with less covering on their faces. A resolution will be drafted and presented to each approved Hampshire judge requesting that open-faced sheep be not discriminated against. C. C. Flanery, sheep specialist in Tennessee, asked the association to send a representative to the regional lamb conference to be held jointly by several southern states in Nashville, January 13. Secretary Tyler will be sent to the conference. Officers elected: President, Mrs. Minnie W. Miller, Salt Lake City, Utah; vice presidents, Henry C. Barlow, McKinney, Texas; Frank Brown, Carlton, Oregon; Dr. H. C. Gardiner, Anaconda, Montana; A. R. Hamilton, Pittsburg, Pa., and W. F. Renk, Sun Prairie, Wisconsin; secretary-treasurer, Comfort A. Tyler, Detroit, Michigan.

# Sheep Affairs in Australia and New Zealand

By A. C. Mills.

Melbourne, October 16, 1926.

The breaking of the drought in Queensland last month lifted a tremendous load off the shoulders of stockowners in the northern state. Their expenses and losses had already been very heavy, and had the rains delayed much longer, with summer approaching and the affected area rapidly widening, they must have reached huge figures. The rains started with thunderstorms and were of a fairly general nature, up to four inches being recorded in the central west where conditions were at the worst. The falls in the far west and north have been lighter though sufficient to relieve immediate anxiety and hold out promise of an early setting in of a normal wet season.

The expedients adopted to keep sheep alive in the dry areas were many and varied. Never before has the motor truck played such an important part, for in addition to distributing fodder and moving weak stock, it even appeared as a portion of an irrigation plant. The sheepman who thought of the latter use mounted a force pump on one of his trucks, which when brought up along side the artesian bore drains running through his property, was used to spray water on either side. A belt of country 200 feet wide was thus irrigated and the resultant feed is reputed to have been sufficient to hold 4,000 sheep through the drought.

Corn was used very extensively as a drought feed this year and the number of sheep receiving a daily ration must have run into many millions. As a result of the abnormal demand prices advanced steadily until at the beginning of the last month it was costing at least \$2.16 a bushel on the Queensland coast. When the cost of transport by rail of up to 500 miles, and perhaps another fifty by road, was added it became pretty expensive. The most common method of distribution was to spill a thin stream out of bags as the trucks were run through the paddocks. Sheep did unexpectedly well on the hard diet where they could get water. The cost

necessarily varied, but latterly it is understood to have ranged from about 48 cents to 66 cents per sheep per month, according to inland freights.

The wide use of trucks in the distribution of fodder had one curious effect on the mentality of sheep. Before long they came to associate the "chug chug" of a petrol engine with food and as a result the approach of any car, or even an aeroplane, caused wild excitement in flocks. So firmly did the idea become impressed that breeders were in some cases obliged to move sheep from the vicinity of roads to save them from becoming exhausted from running up and down fences. It will be interesting to see how long it takes a sheep to drop a notion like this.

Opinions differ as to what the drought losses have been. Some are talking of five million and others of six million sheep, and in addition there was for many owners the loss of a season's lambing. Then there is the depreciation in the clip, which is very considerable. Thus in 1924-25 it was valued at \$75,000,000, in 1925-26 at \$50,650,000, and for 1926-27 it is estimated to be worth but \$34,000,000, the last mentioned figure being based on a loss of 5,500,000 sheep.

One immediate effect of the rain in the north has been a firming of the sheep markets. Before the break occurred young ewes could easily be bought in central Queensland at \$3, while wethers were often not worth more than 60 cents. Since the rain sellers have been asking \$9.60 for good shorn ewes, without doing much business though. It is probable the price will settle down round \$6 when pastures have had a chance to recover.

Seasonal conditions over the south of the continent are generally satisfactory. Fat stock are plentiful in almost all districts, and despite heavy yardings, values of sheep and lambs are firm at last month's levels. In the Melbourne yards this week good crossbred wethers, suitable for the middle class butchering trade, were selling at \$4.40 to \$5 a head, Merinos

of the same grade at \$4.10 to \$4.40 with ewes at \$3.60 to \$3.85. Prime spring lambs are worth \$5.50 to \$6.25, and good useful weights from \$4.80 to \$5.30.

Practically all the southern meat packing plants are now killing big tallies of lambs for the export trade. Shippers have lately been purchasing supplies in the open markets on the basis of 10½ cents to 11½ cents per pound, bare meat, but the suckers they are getting direct from farms in the country are not costing much over 10 cents, delivered at slaughter house. The latter price certainly corresponds more nearly to current selling values. So far as can be ascertained the best c.i.f. (cost, freight and insurance) sale made to date is 15½ cents per pound for a special line of light lambs, while the bulk of the business appears to have been done round 14½ cents per pound. Seeing that it costs at least 5 cents a pound, and probably 5½ cents in most cases, to place lamb c.i.f., it is self evident that shippers who bought on a 11½ cents bare meat basis are taking considerable risks.

Wool auctions are being held at regular intervals at all Australian centers, and the results generally are good. Compared with opening prices fine Merinos are a shade dearer and more keenly sought after, it being apparent as sales progress that they are going to be relatively scarce this year. On the other hand there has lately been a slight easing in the ordinary broad haired top making wools, both fleece and pieces, due mainly to more cautious buying on the part of Yorkshire. America has just come into the market again and is bidding strongly for the top lots of the better class clips. A fair number of sales have been made at about 55 cents per pound, but the average realized for all descriptions is said to be in the region of 36 cents.

Commenting on the position, a leading authority says that, after allowing for difference in growth and condition, the average of values today is on a par with that ruling during the same period last year, though prices for the various sections of the clip may differ. It is surprising, in working out the average of a total clip, how close the two seasons are. For instance, only last week a comparison made of a clip of some 400 bales worked



out as follows: 1925, 31.08 cents; this year, 30.98 cents, though the top lot this year made 3 cents under last year.

This, he adds, was a useful type of Riverina wool, but carrying rather more dust than last season, and on that score would be dearer wool to the buyer, while giving a bigger return to the grower per head of sheep.

With the fine weather experienced for shearing, wool is coming into store more freely than usual. The total receipts between July 1 and September 30, according to National Council of Wool Brokers monthly return, stands at 869,779 bales, against 618,205 for the corresponding period of 1925. Sales to the end of September this season aggregate 303,514 bales, 4217 bales had been shipped unsold, and 552,048 bales were held waiting auction.

#### PREVENTION OF LOSS IN SHED LAMBED EWES

The Idaho wool grower is now about to begin the winding up of this year's business and make ready for the 1927 demands. Many industrialists and enthusiasts boast of a banner year almost unprecedented, but the drought of the past summer and fall attended by early frosts and freezing weather, which destroyed most of the feed value of fall pastures, make it extremely difficult for the average wool grower to show a profit on the year's business, were it not for the very high percentage of lambs raised and marketed at exceptionally good prices in the early season.

Owing to the late rainfall very little range forage will be produced that will be available for winter range. This means apparently a grave shortage of feed on the range at the time that sheep are usually turned out in the spring. As a result of the prevailing food shortage, more breeding ewes than usual will be forced into the feed lots and at an earlier date. To the casual observer this would indicate a long feeding period; probably from three and a half to four months, and for some growers, even longer than that. That is a long, long time to consider the keeping of sheep on a hay ration without supplemental feeding.

The longer the feeding period is on a straight hay ration, the greater the death loss from impaction and other digestive troubles, and this is further augmented by feeding in close quarters. Your ewes, since the middle of last March, have been accustomed to getting many varieties of food, the best of water, and an abundance of exercise; the latter playing a greater part than many of you suspect. Without the assimilation of the nutrient elements of foods taken into the digestive tract, the body could not be maintained, and without the proper functioning of the organs of elimination, which take care of the waste products of the body, digestion and assimilation would be impaired as a result of toxins absorbed and this would eventually result in the death of the animal. Exercise is absolutely necessary for the proper functioning of all organs and glands of the body.

Another condition upon which the above has a bearing is what we have chosen to call "Pre Parturient Anemia." This is the condition (not a disease) which, conservatively estimated, is responsible for the loss of more than 15,000 aged, pregnant ewes in Idaho nearly every year. The loss begins about ten days to two weeks before shed lambing commences and continues over a like period after lambing has begun. About 95 per cent of the ewes succumbing to this condition are carrying twin lambs. In bands of aged ewes this loss often exceeds five per cent and occasionally between 10 and 20 per cent.

The demand upon a pregnant ewe increases in proportion to the development of the foetus and as probably 40 per cent, by weight, of the foetal development takes place within the last thirty days of pregnancy, you will readily understand the extra demand on the ewe over this period and the necessity of providing an additional ration.

With a single hay ration the ewe is unable to consume enough and to assimilate sufficient nutrients therefrom to develop twin lambs and at the same time maintain her own body, consequently the foetes take most of the nutrients at the expense of the ewe, leaving the body undernourished and anemic. When a generous grain ration is provided, beginning three or four

weeks before lambing and continuing through the lambing period, practically all of this loss will be prevented.

To those who can, we recommend keeping your breeding ewes out on the range as long as possible even though it be necessary to provide hay or grain as a small part of their daily ration. When it becomes necessary to go into the feed lots with your early lambers, provide them with a grain, cotton cake or cull bean ration in addition to their hay.

Make use of as large an area as possible in the distribution of the hay and grain and have watering facilities conveniently available. Force exercise (by driving) of logy ewes that seem disinclined to move about otherwise.

The above is a brief summary of conclusions based upon observations and experimentations that have been carried on for the past four or five years by Dr. W. T. Huffman, representing the United States Bureau of Animal Industry, and Dr. J. S. Dade, representing the Idaho Board of Sheep Commissioners.

Idaho Board of Sheep  
Boise, Idaho. Commissioners.

#### FEED SITUATION IN MONTANA

The feed supply situation in districts of Montana where winter feeding is done, excepting the hay feeding section of the Big Hole Basin, is favorable for some increase in feeding of cattle, sheep and lambs over that of last season, according to a summary of the situation issued by the United States Division of Crop and Live Stock Estimates co-operating with the State Department of Agriculture.

In the beet factory areas of Billings, Sidney and Chinook supplies of pulp will total larger than last year, as will also grain feeds, except corn, with apparently about the same supplies of hay and roughage as a year ago, although hay is priced about \$1 per ton higher due to a somewhat shorter state crop than last year.

Indications on lamb feeding point to a larger total this year than last and as large as any since 1920-21, although supplies and marketings will probably be distributed differently compared with last year.

L. S.

## Awards at the Fall Breeding-Sheep Shows

### THE INTERNATIONAL AT CHICAGO

The highest point of all around excellence in all the breeds and in the wether classes was recorded at the twenty-sixth International Live Stock Exposition at Chicago, which closed on December 4.

While the International is the meeting place for winners and champions of the breeding classes from all the shows of Canada and the United States, it has the only large show of fat wethers of all the breeds and of carlots of lambs. The fat sheep show in the single classes is composed mainly of exhibits from the agricultural colleges. The champion single wether of the show was owned by the Pennsylvania State College, a pure bred Southdown lamb, weighing 118 pounds and later sold at \$3.65 per pound. Championships by breeds were as follows: Shropshires, University of Wisconsin on a yearling; Oxfords, Iowa State College on a yearling; Rambouillets, Oklahoma State College on a yearling; Hampshires, Thousand Springs Farm, Wendell, Idaho, on a lamb; grades and crossbreds, Pennsylvania State College on a yearling.

In the carlot section the best load of the show was shown by Chase Bros. of South Dakota. This was a load of lambs weighing 84 pounds, sired by Southdown rams and out of grade Shropshire ewes. They were sold at 68 cents per pound to Armour & Company. Swift & Company paid 32 cents for another load of 82-pound lambs.

Exhibits in the breeding classes were more numerous in some cases than in other years, but chiefly notable for the large number of superior individuals in each class. The Hampshire show caused a great deal of favorable comment. For the first time this breed was shown without coloring of any kind. One hundred and twenty head were exhibited. The judge was W. F. Renk of Wisconsin, who worked with ready assurance and of whose placings there was little discussion. The awards follow:

#### HAMPSHIRE BREEDING CLASSES

**Aged ram (1 shown)**—Oklahoma A. & M. College, first.

**Yearling ram (5 shown)**—Mt. Haggin Land & Live Stock Co., first and fourth;

A. R. Hamilton, second; Straloch Farms, third; Oklahoma College, fifth.

**Ram lambs (14 shown)**—Mt. Haggin Land & Live Stock Co., first and second; Thousand Springs Farm, third and fifth; A. R. Hamilton, fourth.

**Pen of three ram lambs (4 shown)**—Mt. Haggin Land & Live Stock Co., first; Thousand Springs Farm, second; A. R. Hamilton, third; Straloch Farms, fourth.

**Yearling ewes (15 shown)**—Thousand Springs Farm, first, fourth and fifth; A. R. Hamilton, second; Mt. Haggin Land & Live Stock Co., third.

**Ewe lambs (21 shown)**—Mt. Haggin Land & Live Stock Co., first and second; Thousand Springs Farm, third and fifth; A. R. Hamilton, fourth.

**Pen of three ewe lambs (5 shown)**—Mt. Haggin Land & Live Stock Co., first; Thousand Springs Farm, second; A. R. Hamilton, third; University of Minnesota, fourth; Straloch Farms, fifth.

**Flock (4 shown)**—Mt. Haggin Land & Live Stock Co., first; Thousand Springs Farm, second; A. R. Hamilton, third; Straloch Farms, fourth.

**Champion Ram**—Mt. Haggin Land & Live Stock Co. on lamb.

**Reserve Champion Ram**—Mt. Haggin Land & Live Stock Co. on yearling.

**Champion Ewe**—Thousand Springs Farm on yearling.

**Reserve Champion Ewe**—Mt. Haggin Land & Live Stock Co. on lamb.

The Rambouillet show was one of the largest of the exposition. Entries were shown in all classes by King Bros. Company, Wyoming; Bullard Bros., California; J. M. Shaw, Ohio; C. S. Arn, Ohio; and Ellis Bros., Missouri. The agricultural colleges of Illinois, Minnesota, Iowa and Indiana each had entries in most of the classes. These eastern colleges appear to be following the same line as western breeders in producing a smooth-bodied sheep of good conformation, brought out with little oiling and not over twelve months' growth of fleece. The Ohio exhibits largely run to the more heavily marked type. In last year's show Prof. Coffey's judging recognized only the lighter, smoother type and had considerable regard for mutton points. This year Judge Webb, who personally is partial to the heavier "B" type, selected his winners from both types. There was also considerable and competent disagreement as to some of the awards in cases in which the winners were of the same type. It is an unfortunate thing for this great breed that a general standard cannot be recognized and followed in the judging at the larger shows. This could

be done regardless of what the breeders choose to use in their own flocks or to recognize at smaller shows. It would do much to enlighten many breeders and commercial producers who appreciate Rambouillets, but who now leave the ringside in a confused state of mind. The awards follow:

#### RAMBOUILLETS

**Aged ram (9 shown)**—C. S. Arn, first; Bullard Bros., second; King Bros. Co., third; J. M. Shaw, fourth; Ellis Bros., fifth.

**Yearling ram (18 shown)**—Ellis Bros., first; King Bros. Co., second; J. M. Shaw, third; Bullard Bros., fourth; Purdue University, fifth.

**Ram lamb (27 shown)**—King Bros. Co., first; Bullard Bros., second; Purdue University, third; C. S. Arn, fourth; University of Illinois, fifth.

**Pen of three ram lambs (7 shown)**—University of Illinois, first; Bullard Bros., second; C. S. Arn, third; King Bros. Co., fourth; J. M. Shaw, fifth.

**Yearling ewe (20 shown)**—King Bros. Co., first; J. M. Shaw, second; Purdue University, third; Ellis Bros., fourth; University of Minnesota, fifth.

**Ewe lamb (28 shown)**—Purdue University, first and second; Bullard Bros., third; University of Illinois, fourth; King Bros. Co., fifth.

**Pen of three ewe lambs (9 shown)**—Purdue University, first; University of Illinois, second; Bullard Bros., third; King Bros. Co., fourth.

**Flock (8 shown)**—Ellis Bros., first; King Bros. Co., second; J. M. Shaw, third; C. S. Arn, fourth; Bullard Bros., fifth.

**Champion Ram**—Ellis Bros. on yearling.

**Reserve Champion Ram**—C. S. Arn on aged ram.

**Champion Ewe**—King Bros. Co. on yearling.

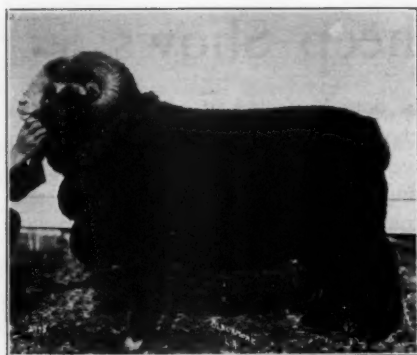
**Reserve Champion Ewe**—Purdue University on lamb.

The champion Shropshire ram was shown by Jess C. Andrew of Indiana and the ewe by A. Broughton's Sons, Wisconsin.

### THE PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL AT PORTLAND

The Pacific International Live Stock Exposition was held October 30 to November 6. The exhibits were unusually numerous in all breeds and of exceptionally high merit. There was a large attendance of breeders and officials of wool growers' and sheep breeders' organizations. Professor Robert F. Miller of the University of California judged the fine wool classes and James C. Duncan of Lewiston,

(Continued on page 40)



The Champion Rambouillet yearling ram at the Portland Show. Exhibited by Bullard Bros., Woodland, California.



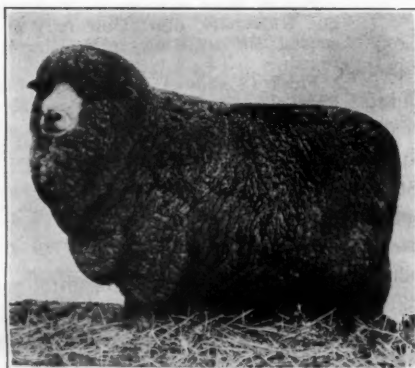
Hampshire ram bred by Frank Brown & Sons, Carlton, Oregon. Champion at the 1926 Oregon Fair.



Bullard Bros. yearling ewe, champion at Portland 1926.



First prize Shropshire flock at the Portland Show. Owned by Floyd T. Fox of Silverton, Oregon.



Corriedale ram recently imported from the Guthrie Flock of Australia by King Bros. Co., Laramie, Wyoming. A prominent winner at Australian shows prior to importation.



Southdown lamb, grand champion wether over all breeds at Portland, 1926. Bred and exhibited by the University of Idaho.



Stud yearling Rambouillet ewes purchased by the Russian Commissioners last fall from King Bros. Co.



Rams secured by the Russian Commissioners at the Salt Lake Sale and at King Bros. Company, assembled at the King Ranch for shipment.

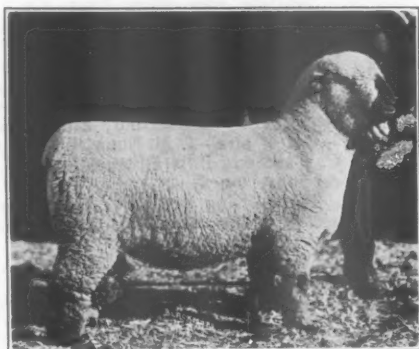




The Hampshire ram lamb class in the judging ring at the Portland Show.



First prize pen of three Hampshire ram lambs at Portland. Bred and exhibited by Frank Brown & Sons, Carlton, Oregon.



The Mt. Haggin L. & L. Co.'s Hampshire ram lamb, winner of championship award for the breed at Portland, Kansas City and Chicago.



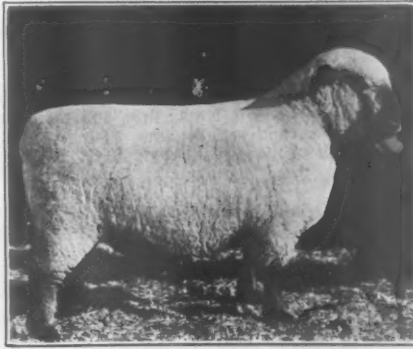
The Mt. Haggin Hampshire ewe lamb, winner of her class at three shows and champion ewe at Kansas City.



The Mt. Haggin Hampshire group, winner of first award for flock at the three fall shows.



Winner of first in the aged class and reserve champion of the Rambouillet show at Chicago. Exhibited by C. S. Arn, Kenton, Ohio.



Thousand Springs Farm yearling Hampshire ewe, winner of the breed championship at Portland and Chicago. Winner of class at Kansas City, and winner in the ewe lamb class at Chicago, 1926.



Champion Rambouillet ewe at Chicago and Kansas City. Bred and exhibited by King Bros.

## AWARDS AT THE FALL BREEDING— SHEEP SHOWS

(Continued from page 37)

New York, officiated for the mutton breeds.

### RAMBOUILLETS

#### Exhibitors

Bullard Bros., Woodland, Calif.  
J. M. Moran, Starbuck, Washington  
Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Ore.  
University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho.

**Aged ram** (3 entered)—Bullard Bros., first; J. M. Moran, second and third.

**Yearling ram** (4 entered)—Bullard Bros., first and second; J. M. Moran, third and fourth.

**Ram lamb** (18 entered)—Bullard Bros., first and third; J. M. Moran, second and fifth; University of Idaho, fourth.

**Pen of three ram lambs** (6 entered)—Bullard Bros., first; J. M. Moran, second and fourth; University of Idaho, third; Oregon Agricultural College, fifth.

**Yearling ewe** (16 entered)—Bullard Bros., first and third; University of Idaho, second; J. M. Moran, fourth and fifth.

**Ewe lamb** (15 entered)—J. M. Moran, first and fourth; Bullard Bros., second; University of Idaho, third.

**Pen of three ewe lambs** (4 entered)—J. M. Moran, first and fourth; University of Idaho, second; Bullard Bros., third.

**Get of Sire** (6 entered)—Bullard Bros., first; J. M. Moran, second; University of Idaho, third and fourth.

**Produce of Ewe** (8 entered)—University of Idaho, first and fourth; Bullard Bros., second; J. M. Moran, third.

**Flock, open** (6 entered)—Bullard Bros., first and fourth; J. M. Moran, second; University of Idaho, third.

**Flock, bred by exhibitor** (6 entered)—Bullard Bros., first and fourth; J. M. Moran, second; University of Idaho, third.

**Champion Ram**—Bullard Bros.

**Champion Ewe**—Bullard Bros.

### HAMPSHIRE

#### Exhibitors

Frank Brown & Sons, Carlton, Ore.  
Mount Haggin Land & Live Stock Co., Anaconda, Mont.

Dr. H. H. Hartley & Son, Goldendale, Wash.  
R. W. Hogg & Sons, Salem, Ore.  
J. G. S. Hubbard & Sons, Monroe, Ore.  
Roselawn Farm, Sunnyside, Wash.  
Schmidt Bros., Beavercreek, Ore.  
Thousand Springs Farm, Wendell, Idaho  
University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho  
Ernest W. Wilson, Ellensburg, Wash.

**Aged ram** (4 entered)—J. G. S. Hubbard, first and third; Schmidt Bros., second.

**Yearling ram** (7 entered)—Mount Haggin Land & Live Stock Co., first and second; J. G. S. Hubbard & Sons, third; Roselawn Farm, fourth.

**Ram lamb** (40 entered)—Mount Haggin Land & Live Stock Co., first and sixth; Frank Brown & Sons, second and third; Thousand Springs Farm, fourth and fifth.

**Pen of three ram lambs** (10 entered)—Frank Brown & Sons, first; Thousand Springs Farm, second and fourth; Mount Haggin Land & Live Stock Co., third and fifth.

**Yearling ewe** (23 entered)—Thousand Springs Farm, first and third; Mount Haggin

Land & Live Stock Co., second; Roselawn Farm, fourth.

**Ewe lamb** (36 entered)—Mount Haggin Land & Live Stock Co., first and second; Frank Brown & Sons, third; Thousand Springs Farm, fourth.

**Pen of three ewe lambs** (11 entered)—Mt. Haggin Land & Live Stock Co., first and fourth; Frank Brown & Sons, second; Thousand Springs Farm, third.

**Get of Sire** (11 entered)—Thousand Springs Farm, first and fourth; Frank Brown & Sons, second; Mt. Haggin Land & Live Stock Co., third.

**Produce of Ewe** (6 entered)—Thousand Springs Farm, first; Ernest W. Wilson, second; J. G. S. Hubbard & Sons, third; University of Idaho, fourth.

**Flock, open** (10 entered)—Mt. Haggin Land & Live Stock Co., first and third; Thousand Springs Farm, second; Roselawn Farm, fourth.

**Flock, bred by exhibitor** (8 entered)—Mt. Haggin Land & Live Stock Co., first and third; Thousand Springs Farm, second and fourth.

**Champion Ram**—Mt. Haggin Land & Live Stock Co.

**Champion Ewe**—Thousand Springs Farm.

## THE AMERICAN ROYAL AT KANSAS CITY

The American Royal Live Stock Show opened at Kansas City, Mo., one week after the close of the Pacific International and ran through to November 20. Mr. John E. Webb of Indianapolis, Ind., distributed the ribbons to the winners in the Rambouillet classes and J. H. Hanmer of Ames, Ia., made the awards in the Hampshire section.

### RAMBOUILLETS

#### B Type

#### Exhibitors

Chase Bros., Willow Lake, S. D.  
Ellis Bros., Mexico, Mo.  
King Bros. Co., Laramie, Wyo.  
Oklahoma A. & M. College, Stillwater, Okla.  
J. M. Shaw, Peoria, Ohio.

**Aged ram**—Ellis Bros., first and fourth; J. M. Shaw, second and third.

**Yearling ram**—Ellis Bros., first; King Bros., second; J. M. Shaw, third and fourth.

**Ram lamb**—King Bros. Co., first and fourth; Oklahoma College, second; Ellis Bros., third.

**Pen of three ram lambs**—King Bros. Co., first; Oklahoma College, second; Ellis Bros., third.

**Yearling ewe**—Ellis Bros., first and third; J. M. Shaw, second and fourth.

**Ewe lamb**—Ellis Bros., first; King Bros. Co., second, third and fourth; J. M. Shaw, fifth.

**Pen of three ewe lambs**—King Bros. Co., first; Ellis Bros., second; Oklahoma College, third.

**Get of sire**—King Bros. Co., first; Ellis Bros., second; J. M. Shaw, third; Oklahoma College, fourth.

**Flock**—Ellis Bros., first; King Bros., second; J. M. Shaw, third; Oklahoma College, fourth.

**Champion Ram**—Ellis Bros.

**Champion Ewe**—Ellis Bros.

#### C. Type

#### Exhibitors

Jos. Barron & Sons, Slippery Rock, Pa.  
Chase Bros., Willow Lake, S. D.  
King Bros. Co., Laramie, Wyo.  
D. F. McDowell & Sons, Mercer, Pa.  
Oklahoma A. & M. College, Stillwater, Okla.  
J. M. Shaw, Peoria, Ohio.  
Ellis Bros., Mexico, Mo.

**Aged ram**—J. M. Shaw, first and fourth; Chase Bros., second; King Bros. Co., third.

**Yearling ram**—King Bros. Co., first; Ellis Bros., second; J. M. Shaw, third and fourth.

**Ram lamb**—King Bros., first; Ellis Bros., second; J. M. Shaw, third; Chase Bros., fourth.

**Pen of three ram lambs**—King Bros., first; Ellis Bros., second; Chase Bros., third.

**Yearling ewe**—King Bros. Co., first; J. M. Shaw, second and fourth; Ellis Bros., third.

**Ewe lamb**—J. M. Shaw, first and fourth; King Bros. Co., second; Ellis Bros., third.

**Pen of three ewe lambs**—J. M. Shaw, first; King Bros. Co., second; Ellis Bros., third.

**Get of sire**—J. M. Shaw, first; King Bros. Co., second; Ellis Bros., third; Jos. Barron & Sons, fourth.

**Flock**—King Bros. Co., first; J. M. Shaw, second, Ellis Bros., third; Jos. Barron & Sons, fourth.

**Champion Ram**—King Bros. Co.

**Champion Ewe**—King Bros. Co.

### HAMPSHIRE

#### Exhibitors

Frank Brown & Sons, Carlton, Ore.  
Chase Bros., Willow Lake, S. D.  
R. F. Frantz, Bonner Springs, Kansas  
J. G. S. Hubbard & Son, Monroe, Ore.  
Kansas State Agricultural College, Manhattan, Kansas

S. G. Miles, Evansville, Wis.  
Mount Haggin Land & Live Stock Co., Anaconda, Mont.

Oklahoma A. & M. College, Stillwater, Okla.  
Thousand Springs Farm, Wendell, Idaho

**Aged ram**—Oklahoma College, first; S. G. Miles, second.

**Yearling ram**—Mt. Haggin Land & Live Stock Co., first and second; Oklahoma College, third; S. G. Miles, fourth.

**Ram lambs**—Mt. Haggin Land & Live Stock Co., first and second; Thousand Springs Farm, third, fourth and fifth.

**Pen of three ram lambs**—Mt. Haggin Land & Live Stock Co., first and third; Thousand Springs Farm, second and fourth.

**Yearling ewe**—Thousand Springs Farm, first, third and fifth; Mt. Haggin Land & Live Stock Co., second and fourth.

**Ewe lamb**—Mt. Haggin Land & Live Stock Co., first, second and fifth; Thousand Springs Farm, third and fourth.

**Pen of three ewe lambs**—Mt. Haggin Land & Live Stock Co., first and third; Thousand Springs Farm, second and fourth.

**Get of sire**—Mt. Haggin Land & Live Stock Co., first; Thousand Springs Farm, second and third; R. F. Frantz, fourth.

**Flock**—Mt. Haggin Land & Live Stock Co., first and third; Thousand Springs Farm, second and fourth; S. G. Miles, fifth.

**Champion Ram**—Mt. Haggin Land & Live Stock Co.

**Champion Ewe**—Mt. Haggin Land & Live Stock Co.

## The Boston Wool Market



By Henry A. Kidder.



The expected upward swing of wool values, especially for those of domestic growth, is still in abeyance. In fact, the closing days of November saw prices for certain grades of Territory wool at a low ebb again. Some of the holders seem to have little real faith in the situation and consequently every time there is a rally in either demand or prices they start in to sell freely and this action tends to bring down prices again. Something of the kind has just happened. For a time it looked as though Boston was due to have a substantial rally in domestic wool values, especially for Territory wool grades. This would have been but following the lead of foreign primary markets.

The Australian auctions have been up and down since the opening of the new season. The latest definite move was in an upward direction, particularly noticeable, of course, in the case of wools "suitable for America." Some recent quotations have been fully a penny a pound in the grease above the low levels quoted early in November. Various reasons are assigned for this advance, all of which have nothing to do with the strength or lack of it in Summer Street. In fact, Boston has continued to follow, rather than to lead in establishing wool values, and there is nothing in sight to indicate an improvement in this particular.

America is not much of a factor in Australia this year, as the mills are not buying so freely as last year, and the trade has not yet got into swing in buying the necessary wool to make up the deficiency. Latest reports are to the effect that the Australian shipments to date to America have been 33,000 bales, or approximately 11,000,000 pounds. This is only a small section of the wool that will be actually needed to supply the needs of American mills during the coming winter; these needs being estimated at anywhere from 200,000,000 to 250,000,000 pounds, of which something like 75,000,000 pounds must come from Australia.

The student who is searching for a reason for the low-minded condition of a large section of the Boston wool trade

must look somewhere else than to Australia. Much stability has been shown in the auctions there during the whole of the season to date. There have been fluctuations in prices, but these have been moderate and slow in developing, so that the changes have neither been abrupt nor attended with undue excitement. In this particular Boston has shown the same features. It is commonly remarked in the trade that it is surprising that so much domestic wool should have been moved since the first of July, with so little excitement. The fact is, manufacturers and mill buyers have avoided making any spectacular plays in catering to mill needs this season. They have bought when prices were favorable, and have promptly withdrawn from the market whenever sellers sought to reap some benefit from the better movement. At times it has seemed as though the wool trade was able to dictate prices to some extent, but such condition has proved to be only temporary.

It now looks as though the mills had bought enough wool at moderate prices to enable them to tide over the weeks until the new wools from abroad would be available in volume. This has been especially apparent during the last half of November, when reports were current on the Street to the effect that some of the larger mill factors had bought heavily for delivery after the first of the year. It was also rumored that there had been some substantial purchases on which the familiar phrase of "bills dated ahead" applied. Naturally, that there has been much of this latter kind of business is denied in the trade, but it is considered certain that the big mills have placed themselves in a position where they can not be seriously squeezed when later needs arise.

Much interest is felt here in the current series of the London wool sales, the sixth and last of the year. Total offerings available for the series are only 137,500 bales. Included in this total was about 55,000 bales of new Australian wool. As this is written, the market appears to have been

pretty fairly well stabilized on the opening basis, the best Merinos being fairly strong, while the so-called Continental type of Merinos is selling on a much lower basis than during the October series. Postponement of two days' sales was forced by fog. France has been slow in getting to work, but Germany is particularly active, and Bradford is showing more interest than at the October series.

The declines registered at the opening of the series were not greater than were expected by the trade here, as it has been recognized that London has been for some time above the parity of the Australian markets. Therefore, current selling prices are no more than in harmony with what is going on in Australia, sufficient allowance having been made for the cost of getting the wools to London, and also for the fact that spot wools nearer the mills are usually worth a little more than in primary markets.

It is evident from both press and private cablegrams that no new or unexpected feature was developed in the operations of the opening days. If France was quiet, Germany was active, perhaps making up fully for the difference. Bradford is becoming more of a factor daily, and as cheaper coal becomes available through the settlement of the coal strike, ought soon to be in a better competitive position. Already tops and yarns are selling at better prices in Bradford, the quotations of early and mid-November being no longer accepted. American buyers appear to be doing little or nothing at the London sales, which is not strange in view of lower possible costs in direct operations at the Australian auctions.

American buyers have also been doing comparatively little in River Plate markets, Bradford and Germany having been particularly active in the Buenos Aires market and Germany has dominated the Montevideo market, though America has apparently been more interested there than in Buenos Aires. Conditions in the Boston market do not warrant heavy purchases at current rates here and in the River Plate markets. Americans are supposed to be operating more freely at the New Zealand auctions than in other crossbred primary markets, as there is a direct and immediate outlet for these



wools here. The markets in the New Zealand islands are in full swing and have developed considerable strength and some excitement to date.

At home the leading interest of the month has centered in the marketing of the new Texas fall clip. Those wools are now practically all taken over, a single Boston house having bought more than all other buyers put together, this market getting practically the whole of the clip. The range of prices paid was from 22 to 27 $\frac{1}{8}$  cents, though the bulk of the good wools is supposed to have cost the buyers around 25 to 26 cents. The top figure was reported to have been paid for a little choice wool at San Angelo, but the market quickly dropped away from the opening bids.

The above figures compare with opening prices a year ago of 35 to 40 cents. Then there was a range for the early purchases up to 42 cents, but a sharp reaction soon set in and part of the fall clip was left in growers' hands, and a much larger volume was left in the hands of the Boston wool trade, some of it not being sold even yet. Two years ago, opening prices were 48 to 48 $\frac{1}{4}$  cents. This was at Kerrville. Under the influence of strong speculation later, the market went to 57 $\frac{1}{4}$  cents, the high point of the season. In the trade here it is said that the reason for the unexpected interest in the new fall wools, in the face of a lack of interest on the part of manufacturers, based on changing fashion and a consequent lessened measure of usefulness, is to be found in the above comparison of prices for three seasons. The wools are believed to be cheap, though they may be a long time in finding a customer.

Wide differences of opinion appear to exist in this market as to the actual value of Territory and other desirable classes of domestic wools. There is a considerable part of the trade who believe firmly in higher prices. They say that it is a mistake, to put it mildly, to sell the remaining good wools at the low prices reported to have been accepted recently. Their attitude is that holders have only to wait and the market will come around their way again, giving an outlet for current stocks at profitable prices. Those holding this opinion say they are unable

to understand the position of those who are sacrificing their stocks in this uncalled for way.

On the other hand, there are many who are selling steadily at the market. Their attitude is apparently to get as much as possible, but sell at the best price obtainable. This is based, it is believed, upon a lack of confidence in the future, and that it is better to sell while the selling is good and get while the getting is good, even though profits are small. Some of the largest operators in the trade are said to be in this low-minded condition and are selling freely, while nominally talking the market up.

Election results had a sobering effect upon even the most optimistic members of the trade. There was an immediate letting down of wool values as soon as the results were known, even though it is well understood that no material change in regard to wool tariff is possible for two or three years. Some have tried to make it appear that the market has rallied again, and there has possibly been a little recovery from the low point, yet lower prices have been accepted during the last half of the month than for many weeks.

Top grade of Territory wool, fine staple, or fine and fine medium staple, according to house in which the wool is piled, can no longer be quoted at the extreme prices noted a month ago. Most houses are now quoting at \$1.10 to \$1.12 clean, and some very good wools are reported to have been sold at the lower figure. Some lots are still held at \$1.12 to \$1.15, but without takers. Original bag Territories are still being taken, where to be had, at \$1.05 and occasionally up to \$1.08 for the best lots, though the emphasis is generally being placed on the inside figure. For good lots of French combing character, the current quotation is \$1.03 to \$1.05, though it is possible that an occasional choice lot may be held for more money.

Good lots of half-blood staple are still held at around a dollar clean, but offerings are limited, and manufacturers not so much interested as they were a month ago. Choice lots are held for more money, possibly \$1.02 to \$1.03 clean in some cases. For all these fine grades, average and inferior wools are to be had for less money, and manufacturers are paying

much attention to them and are buying where prices correspond to the character of the wools.

For the medium grades there is a distinctly easier market, and prices are actually lower. For the three-eighths-blood grade, the market appears to be about 90 to 92 cents, and sales are noted at 90 cents. Quarter-blood staple is quotable at 80 to 82 cents, though the market demand for this grade is quiet. Low quarter-blood wools are in very small supply, and there is very little doing in them, though a clean quotation of 70 to 75 cents would probably be not far out of the way.

Ohio and similar wool prices have fluctuated within very narrow limits during the past month. Delaines have sold recently at 46 cents, and this figure seems to have been pretty thoroughly established for the best wools. The market for fleeces has been rather quiet during the past month, but houses having sizable stocks to offer have had no difficulty in making sales, provided they could meet buyers' views as to prices. A range of 45 to 46 cents will probably cover the current offerings of both fine and medium wools with desirable staple.

On the whole, it must be said that the situation at the end of November is distinctly easier. No big change in wool values seems imminent; certainly there is nothing in sight on which to base predictions of much higher prices in the near future.

#### WOOL SALE AT PORTLAND, DECEMBER 7th

The Commercial Bulletin of December 11th, carries the following item in regard to the sale of the Crawford Moore pool of Idaho wools at Portland, Oregon, on December 7:

The auction of Idaho wools held by Boise, Idaho, bankers and known as the Crawford Moore pool, resulted on Tuesday in the sale of about 700,000 pounds of wool, mainly to the Lafayette Worsted Company and Alex. Livingstone, Jr., who between them bought about a half million pounds, while the balance went to local woolen mills. The better fine and fine medium French combing wools were sold on a basis equivalent to about \$1.00, clean landed at Boston. Some three-eighths was sold at about 85 cents, clean basis. Prices in the grease varied from 31 to 36 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents. Last year, it will be recalled, initial bids of 42 @ 43 cents rejected and later some wool was sold privately at 45 @ 46 cents, while later lower prices were accepted, for the balance of the wool.

## Range and Market Trade in Lambs

### CHICAGO

November rarely develops an active or healthy live mutton market; this year it might have been worse. At intervals eastern shippers came to the rescue, with the inevitable result, a prompt clearance at advancing prices, but much of the time eastern markets were well supplied with native lambs, dressed trade conditions at no stage justified bragging and as a rule it was a buyer's market with all that condition implies. Ten principal markets wrestled with approximately 950,000 head during the month or 130,000 in excess of November, 1925, Chicago increase compared with last year being about 50,000 head. Under the circumstances a lower set of prices was to have been expected.

November is clean-up season all over the area where native lambs are grown from the Missouri River to the Atlantic seaboard, and Monday gobs at eastern markets were largely responsible for what happened. On the second Monday of the month 40,000 head reported at the various markets east of Chicago, fairly wrecking the Atlantic seaboard dressed market temporarily. The moment eastern markets were relieved of saturation, prices promptly recovered, simultaneously with reappearance of eastern orders at Chicago.

A smaller percentage of native buck lambs than in former years was detected in the run. Possibly the long drawn out educational campaign is getting results. Most of the bucks sold to killers at \$11@11.50, which is the usual penalization.

Few choice feeding lambs reported at the market during the month. Prices looked lower on paper but when quality was considered cost was right around the high point of the year. The dry country in the Dakotas and eastern Montana delivered a lot of "whiteface," wrinkly and pee-wee stuff, but corn belt feeders bought to the last round, despite bad weather, paying \$11.75@12.75 mostly. There has been a healthy demand for pee-wee lambs to rough through the winter and shear.

Western lambs thrown into cornfields earlier in the season were returned to market by the thousand. Some had made

normal gains; others weighed little more than when they went out. When under the necessity of buying for numbers killers took them readily; otherwise the half fat kind was a slow selling proposition, many going to Michigan for a second feed under cover. In the scramble for feeding lambs early in the season farmers took out a lot of heavy westerns of the horsey type and, instead of shearing and putting on strong feed, turned them into pastures or cornfields with the result that instead of taking on finish they grew.

Condition of the army of western lambs absorbed by cornbelt feeders during the range season is steadily improving. Some of these lambs have returned to market with gains of 20 to 25 pounds per head and at \$13.25@13.75 have about held the money invested together in addition to paying a decent price for the feed, which is all the average farmer asks. On the other hand a conspicuous percentage made no gain while out, but such loss is so widely distributed that a relatively small number of individual feeders have been seriously affected in a financial sense. That the velvet on the winter crops of fed lambs was pocketed by the western breeder is a secret everybody in the trade is carrying around.

Nobody expects the lamb market to act credibly this side of February. If there is any merit in past performance it should acquire a stride in March and April. By February 1 the bulk of the western lambs that went into territory east of the Missouri River should be out, but until the area east of Chicago has liquidated the market will be choppy. Once Jersey City, Buffalo, Pittsburgh and other eastern markets are not filled to the brim in response to a 50-cent advance the market will be under better control and by the time Colorado's turn arrives it should be possible to accomplish something in the way of orderly marketing; meanwhile the trade never knows when it will be inundated.

J. E. Poole.

### OMAHA

The expected happened in the lamb trade during November and prices

worked lower, exceeding even the most pessimistic forecasts. Values of fat lambs commenced their downward trend right at the start and the top dropped from \$13.65 early in the month to \$12.50 on November 15, the lowest with one exception since last spring. A slight reaction set in during the third week and this was fairly well maintained until the extreme close. On the last day of the month arrivals numbered 17,000 head and under the stress of the largest run since October 20 prices lost nearly all of the previous advance. Final quotations on woolled stock were fully 90 cents @ \$1.00 under those at the close of last month, while fed shorn lambs showed a decline of as much as \$1.35.

Receipts at 164,373 head were some 93,000 under those for October but nearly 45,000 over November of last year. The run at eastern points proved burdensome at times and this, together with unsatisfactory conditions existing in the dressed trade, acted as a bearish influence on the local market, resulting in the decline mentioned.

Bulk of arrivals consisted of fed western lambs, more than half of the month's run, or 89,000 head, coming from Nebraska. Of this number, about a third were brought in from nearby feed lots. Idaho, with 29,000 head, came second in the number shipped in, a good many of these being wheatfield lambs. Iowa was third, furnishing about 20,000 head. The first Colorado fed lambs of the season arrived on November 29 and brought the day's top of \$13.25. Bulk of the fed woolled lambs sold for slaughter during the month in a spread of \$12.50@13.15, with shorn kinds at \$11.50@12.25. Extreme top for the month on the latter kind was \$12.60, paid early for fall clips. On the close the best bid obtainable was \$11.25.

The feeder market was a quiet affair all month. Supplies were small and choice quality scarce. Demand for the better grades has held up well but the break in fat lamb prices was reflected in those for feeders and this class shows a loss of 50 cents for the month, with some medium kinds off 75 cents. Top, \$13.25,

was paid during the first week, while the lowest top quotation carried was \$12.50. Due to quality, a good many lambs went back to the country from \$12.25 down. On late rounds the best lambs, averaging 60 pounds or less, sold up to \$13.00, with bulk of the good, handyweight offerings making \$12.25@12.75. Total shipments of feeders during the 30-day period were 46,538 head, against 151,977 head during October and 26,836 head in November, 1925.

Judging from late experience, prices will be governed almost entirely during the next month or two by receipts, particularly those in the East, where the states showing the greatest increase in the number of lambs on feed usually ship. With around 500,000 more lambs on feed in the corn belt this year, and western feeders short that many or more, indications point to a lower scale of prices until these corn belt lambs have been marketed, leaving a clear field for the westerns. If, however, receipts can be held down to reasonable proportions instead of congesting markets as they have lately, prices should be fairly well maintained, if not advanced a little.

Aged sheep, if anything, closed November on a stronger basis. Best fat ewes sold up to \$6.60 for slaughter and choice, handyweight kinds are quotable a little higher. Feeding and breeding stock, however, were penalized heavily under a narrowing in demand, but comparatively few of either class have been coming. Best feeders are selling up to \$5.00, with good, solid-mouthed breeders up to \$7.75.

K. H. Kittoe.

#### KANSAS CITY

Lamb prices closed November \$1.15 lower than at the opening. The decline was distributed over two weeks so that there was no severe break on any one day. In the first few days of the month there was a moderate decline followed by a prompt recovery but from the 14th on there was a steady downward movement in quotations. The top price for the month \$14.15 was paid at the outset and then again in the second week. On the close the top was \$12.85. However,

prices late in the month had a much narrower spread than at the outset, due to the fact that the offerings carried more uniform condition.

The real feature in the month's trade was that the range movement ended and that the fall fed lambs and offerings from feed-in-transit-yards began to move. It was not until after the middle of the month that fed classes began to come freely and the break in prices started. The two corresponded so closely that it gave the general impression that killers preferred straight range lambs to fed grades. On close analysis this was not the case but rather reflected the fact that at the beginning of a new general movement, especially if it promises liberal proportions, killers generally endeavor to discount any difference in quality and probable surplus by reducing costs. It has been the history of first receipts of fall fed lambs that they do not kill out as well as the better grades of range lambs. At the same time the wool may be heavier but generally carries more dirt and grease.

From practically all angles the range flockmaster has received much better prices this season than he would have realized had he contracted his lambs early. Had early contracting been followed the speculator would have had a good profit. However some years it would be best to let the speculators get in, if prices offered insure the producer a good profit, yet the fact remains that direct marketing by producers usually brings the best net returns.

There has been considerable disappointment in the condition of some of the early short fed lambs offered. This was due in a large measure to the fact that they had been handled in cornfields where the grain was soft or had been damaged either by frosts or continued wet weather. Perhaps in no previous November has there been such a large number of mud-dried fleece shown and the lambs did not have the usual finish. To this extent at least feeders who are handling lambs for marketing after the first of the year should not be greatly concerned because the market price fell below the 13-cent level.

A heavy movement of fed lambs from the corn belt east of the Missouri River will prevail for the next sixty days. Chi-

cago, Ohio River markets and Buffalo will get the bulk of this supply and Missouri River markets will have fewer fat lambs by a material number than in the corresponding period last season. The San Luis Valley in Colorado has 74,500 lambs on feed, or about 15,000 fewer than a year ago. Other Colorado sections and western Nebraska have about 750,000, or about one-half as many as last year. The San Luis Valley will market in the next forty-five days. The other sections of Colorado and Nebraska put in their lambs late and will market late, so that they will have the market at a time when available supplies will be moderate. At present prices the eastern feeder is taking a loss. For a profit he should have 15 cents or better. Because of late marketing, the western feeders will come out much better than those who are shipping now.

While prices of pelts hold up fairly well, it looks as if wool will stand less of first cost than a year ago, and that in turn will tend to increase the price of dressed meat, a condition that does not add to demand.

The few fat sheep offered during the month were shorn wethers at \$7.60 to \$7.75; yearlings \$9.50 to \$10.00 and ewes \$6 to \$6.75. Most of these sold late in the month and were considered slightly higher than the close of October. Outside of ewes, mostly of the aged class, fed sheep will be in limited supply the rest of the season, and for that reason heavy-weight lambs may prove more popular than in former years.

General figures indicate that the sheep industry has extended production in the past year and that a future expansion is due next year. At the same time there is nothing to indicate that the danger point has been reached, in fact the inability of large feeding areas to get the thin lambs they needed tends to show that a further increase is necessary.

November receipts were 92, 522, compared with 83,282 last year and a record November run of 200,900 established in 1910. The eleven months receipts total 1,667,590 compared with 1,384,636 in the same period last year and a record of 2,044,973 for eleven months in 1911.

Chas. M. Pipkin.



**ST. JOSEPH**

Receipts for the month of November were 74,000, about 5,000 under the same month a year ago. Bulk of the month's supply consisted of fed lambs and quality was of good average. The lamb market held up well the first week, top prices ranging around \$13.75@14.00 on fed kinds and rangers were 15@25 cents under these. The market broke around \$1.00 the second week, then showed little change until the last two days, when there was a drop of 25@40 cents, best fed lambs selling at \$12.85, rangers \$12.50 and natives \$12.75 on the extreme close. Clipped lambs brought \$11.75 on the close and feeders, \$12.00@12.25. Aged sheep were scarce throughout the month and values did not change much. Good ewes sold \$6.25@6.50, wethers \$7.50@8.50 and yearlings \$10.00@11.25.

H. H. Madden.

**DENVER**

The lamb market at all points suffered a decline during the month of November. At Denver the receipts were not so heavy as a year ago, but under the influence of lower markets east, prices declined about a dollar on fat lambs and from 75 cents to 85 cents on feeders. Good fat lambs that sold at \$13.25 early in the month were selling at \$12.25 at the close. Numerous bunches of short-fed lambs from feed lots came back during the last two weeks of the month and went to packers at around \$12.25 to \$12.50 for good stock.

Feeding lambs were selling up to \$13.35 for the choice grades early in November, while the same grades were going at \$12.50 at the close of the month. Fat ewes closed the month with some advance, the desirable kinds selling up to \$6.75, while breeding ewes continued in good demand at \$6.5 to \$7.50.

Receipts of sheep at Denver for November were 190,885 head compared to 230,638 head in November, 1925. Receipts for the eleven months ending November 30 show a loss as compared to the same period of 1925 of around 500,000.

Only about 40 per cent as many lambs are on feed in the Colorado feeding dis-

tricts this year as last, according to estimates of Denver commission men in close touch with the situation. The demand for feeding lambs continues strong here, and dealers look for a good many lambs to go into Colorado feed lots this month, bringing up the percentage of feeding. Many Colorado feeders who have been

holding out for lower prices to buy their feeding lambs are expected to make purchases immediately. These feeders anticipate a good market for fat lambs late next spring after the corn belt stock is out of the way, and will make plans to feed for this late market.

W. N. Fulton.

## Letter From A Shepherd to His Pal

Cadiz, Spain,  
December, 1926.  
Dear Ern:

The war in Africa is over and we're sitting on top of the moon. Isaac placed his money on the Spanish success in time to clean up ten to one, and he had two millions at stake. First thing, he writes me a check for a hundred thousand pesetas gold coin of the realm. That was for helping him and Sarah get under the wire. Ten days later his fortune would'a been worth as much as the hole in a cheap doughnut. The Colonel came through with a commission for me in the Spanish Army, and the Count brought me a official citation for bravery with a girl. It mentions Sarah that way—I didn't read it all—it's as complicated as a maiden's midnight dream. But the main thing is that Don Emanuel has pulled off a comeback with the King of Spain and is on the political deck with both feet. They sent a cruiser to Tangier after us and we came straight to Cadiz. I'm to marry Arabella so's to promote the Don's Old Line. They forgave the Count for fussing around with the Queen and he's to be best man at the wedding. Sarah's going to be one of the bridesmaids.

Yesterday we was up at the Don's house—it's sure a dandy, double deck and as big as a haymow, built on a hill overlooking the ocean. There I met Aabella—ain't that a hell of a name for a purty girl?—and say, she's some chicken! Her hair is as black as midnight and her eyes just make you want to go and fight bulls and things for her. I wanted to slip up town and buy a coupe and take her out for a ride. It was lucky Sarah was there. She checked me up and told me that that'd never do in this climate. Sarah's wised me up a lot. She put me next to this

duenna racket they work over here. A duenna is a experienced dame they send along when you go to call on your girl. Take this one of Arabella's. She's a stately thing, built like a nigger heaven, and there ain't a thing I can think of but what the old dame is a half a day's travel ahead of me. She must've had some experience in her own wayward youth. For'n instance. I'd spotted a nice roomy couch out in a sequestered place on the veranda and mapped out my trail so's could herd Arabella over there without a hitch. I'd managed it fine, too, and we was just sliding down into the cushions when a voice spoke up:

"That's right, children," it said in accents like a registered alley cat, "let's sit down and converse a while."

It was that duenna, and how she figured out about that couch has got me guessing yet. If she knowed only half what I think of her they'd probably cancel my strain of Spanish blood.

Sarah's sure been a great help. She's onto all of this fancy stuff and shows me the ropes. She bought my clothes, a swell layout, all silk lined and swallow tailed cut. I doubt whether old Spot'd know me now. That reminds me. I'd went up town in the afternoon, figuring on buying something nice for Arabella. I was just passing a butcher shop when I see a dog sitting out in front, getting a good smell through the open door. He was a good looking dog, part collie, with a good head and eyes. But he was lean and hungry, and anybody could see that he wasn't eating regular.

"Hello Slim," says I to him, and he wagged his tail friendly like, still absorbed in his meditation on the probable flavor of the nearest quarter of beef.

I see what he was thinking of, so I

walked in and the butcher comes running up. "The whole shop is yours", says he to me.

"I don't want quite that much," says I. "But I would buy a nice big steak."

"How thick?" says he, holding his knife alongside a hunk of beef.

"Just a little thicker," says I. "Not that it makes a lot of difference," when he'd got the meat wrapped up, "cause it's only for that dog out there."

Well sir, Ern, I thought that bird was going to challenge me to a duel with cleavers. But when he heard the gold clink in my pockets he conquered the impulse.

Then I took Slim into a alley and cut the meat up into little pieces and tossed 'em in the air. He didn't miss a one, not he. After that he just followed me around and we went into a jewelers shop where he looked over the diamonds while I picked out a ten thousand peseta bracelet for Arabella. That is, I bought it for Arabella, but I gave it to Sarah. I saw her first. Tell you what, Ern, if Sarah was only a Methodist or a Piscopalean, or a Mormon, this Old Line of the Don's would just die a natcheral death as far as I'm personally involved.

When we got back to the house I didn't notice and Slim followed me in. There was a young noble from a old estate up in the Pyrenees took a vicious kick at him. I oughtn't to have done it, I guess, but before I had time to think I slugged this fellow right where he stood. When he came to, he couldn't think of anything except a few fast duels.

"All right," says I, "let's go out on the lawn and use army automatics at ten paces."

His friends patched it up. I hated it like sin, Ern, on account of Arabella, you know. Thought it'd make her feel cheap about me that way. But it seems that me accepting this fellow's challenge saved my bacon. That's right in line with their ideas. But I hadn't gone at it right. The Don took me off to one side and gave me the right dope.

"You slap the face," says he. "That's right. But not so hard."

I think he was tickled about it, though he never let on. Funny thing about this bunch. They challenge each other over

some affair—try to put your arm around some fellow's girl and you run that kind of a chance—but they're polite as hell about it. They first find out all about their grandmothers' virtue, and then, if they consider themselves born free and equal, why they meet some place, bow to each other and proceed to shoot up their individual anatomies. Even the Don here, a mild, noble of fellow like him, he's killed five or six men in his day.

Well Ern, I guess I'd better close. I'm going to be married day after tomorrow and I want to go over to the library and read up something about marriage. There's a lot of stuff I don't know and I don't want to be caught acting like a boob. Think I'll git Sarah to practice with me tomorrow and then there won't be any hitch.

Your Friend and Pal,

Richard A. Wormwood.

P. S. If you want to send us a present you can send a collar for Slim. He's going to be one of the family.

R. A. W.

## NATIONAL FOREST GRAZING FEES

(Continued from page 17).

Secretary of Agriculture in connection with this most important matter appears to give any consideration to the principal argument urged by the stockmen in opposition to the idea of applying the strictly commercial principle in determination of forest grazing fees. On many occasions the stockmen have asked for a consideration of the Forest Service requirements for ownership of dependent and commensurate property by those obtaining grazing permits. Since neither report refers to this matter, it remains for the representatives of the permittees to urge its proper consideration by the secretary when opportunity is presented to discuss the matter with him.

Records of the Forest Service shows that 30,866 holders of forest grazing permits granted under existing regulations are owners of 4,629,613 acres of crop land and 22,174,423 acres of grazing land. To a very large extent this land is used for the fall and winter feeding of stock that is admitted to the forests in summer. A principal basis for selection of the owners of these lands to receive the grazing per-

mits has been the fact that the proper utilization of their farms and grazing lands required that their stock should have access in summer to the forage produced on lands within the forest boundaries, much of which do not produce timber. The far reaching effect of the proposed scale of grazing fees upon the investment and tax bearing values of these lands has not been adequately regarded by any representative of the government who has so far appeared in the consideration of the grazing question.

### Relating Fees to Market Prices

On one point of importance the Forest Service and Mr. Casement are not in accord. The latter recommends to the Secretary that when the increases now proposed shall have come into full effect in 1930, a new basis of determining fees shall be employed in future years. He recommends that, beginning in 1931, "the fees for forest grazing shall be related to prices paid for products of the ranges and shall vary from year to year proportionately therewith."

The Forest Service considers that the fees now proposed should be continued in effect until the expiration in 1935 of the ten-year permits issued in 1925. The Forester states: "In subsequent range appraisals the method proposed by Mr. Casement of relating grazing fees to the current market value of live stock products should be fully considered; but I believe it inadvisable at this time to commit or limit the department to any specific method of appraising that may not be found most sound and applicable in the future."

### Range Improvements and Higher Fees

The Casement report speaks strongly and plainly upon the need of water development and other improvements on the National forest grazing areas, stating that the withholding of such improvements "appears to be an absurd and short-sighted policy." Mr. Casement also states that "the permittees would cheerfully pay increased fees if they would be assured that a sum equal to the increases would be made available for range improvements."

### YEARLY EWES FOR SALE

We can furnish a fine lot of Rambouillet yearly ewes for spring delivery.

**DAYBELL LIVE STOCK CO.**  
PROVO, UTAH

## AROUND THE RANGE COUNTRY

(Continued from Page 20)

throughout the state; rain fell nearly every day in some sections. The weather was so mild that the snow accumulations in the high Sierra Mountains have not been heavy, despite the heavy precipitation. Grains and pastures have been greatly benefited, and the soils are now saturated. Live stock are in good condition, and should make some improvement.

### Winters

We had two inches of rain during the early part of November and feed conditions, November 17, are good.

The local market for ewes has been at the following prices: \$12 to \$14 for yearlings; \$5.50 to \$7.50 for aged; and \$8 to \$10 for mixed ages. Feeder lambs have gone at 10 to 12 cents, the latter figure being paid for mixed ewes and wethers. About one-fourth of the ewe lambs were kept for flock replenishment.

Alfalfa hay in the stack is quoted at \$8 to \$10. Herders' wages range from \$60 to \$80.

C. C. Councilman.

### NEVADA

The prolonged drought has been effectively broken over the entire state, but more especially in the western portion. Moisture is now available for crops and ranges, also for watering places used by live stock. However, the weather has been abnormally mild and the state generally is carrying little snow, the deserts being bare. Live stock are in rather good condition, and the winter areas are almost fully occupied. Much hay was fed owing to dry ranges prior to the coming of the storms. Snow must come shortly or range stuff will suffer, though feed is plentiful, where within reach of water.

### Jiggs

To date, October 30, prices paid for ewes have ranged from \$9 to \$13, the lower figure taking the aged ewes and the higher, the yearlings. Ewes of mixed ages have brought \$11. Wether lambs have been sold at 10 cents and mixed lots of ewe and wether lambs at 11 cents. About 75

per cent of the ewe lambs were kept by the sheepmen for breeding purposes.

I believe that there will be more ewes bred this season, about 10 per cent more.

We have had fair weather during the past month, but the feed conditions on the range are anything but good. Our range is overstocked anyway. Hay is selling at \$9 a ton in the stack.

Wages for herders are \$100 a month.

J. J. Hylton.

### Winnemucca

Very dry weather prevailed up until November 17; since then we have had plenty of rain. No green feed has appeared on the range yet, but plenty of old feed remains. Most of the sheepmen feed their bands during the winter months. I estimate that only about 25 per cent use the range. Eight dollars is asked for alfalfa hay.

No sales of ewes have been reported lately. Wether lambs sold here at 9½ and 10 cents, mixed ewe and wether lambs going at 11 cents. Sheepmen kept about 80 per cent of their ewe lambs to keep their breeding bands in good condition.

Wages for herders are \$100 a month.

Alex Dufferreno.

### NEW MEXICO

Mild temperatures with generally fair skies have been favorable directly on live stock, and animals are mostly in good or excellent condition. However, there has not been enough rain and the weather has been windy, drying out the ranges more or less, and depreciating the feed somewhat. Water supplies are getting low. There is little snow in the mountains. Only a little freezing weather has occurred.

### Albuquerque

We have had an unusually mild fall this year. The west side of the state has plenty of feed for winter. Sheep in this section are run on the range all the winter, and there is plenty of room for more or larger bands than we have at present.

Most of the ewe lambs were retained this fall, but those that were sold locally brought 11 to 12 cents. From 10¼ to 10½ cents took the wethers. Yearling

## DEER LODGE FARMS CO.



Day Farms Co. No. 3928  
One of our stud rams.

We believe that the big ram with a long staple fleece that has density and fineness and is free from body wrinkles and kemp is the ideal ram for the range.

If that is the kind of a Rambouillet ram you like, see our offering of 1100 yearlings in 1926.

DEER LODGE FARMS COMPANY  
Deer Lodge, Montana

## Registered Rambouillet Ewes

400 Registered Rambouillet ewes; ages, yearlings to fives. Bred to highest priced bucks of 1925 National Ram Sale. Will sell in lots to suit purchaser before or after lambing. Prices in reason.

CUNNINGHAM SHEEP COMPANY  
Pendleton, Oregon

# Rambouillets

## We Offer:

Yearling Range Rams: Husky and  
Ready for Service

200 One and two-year-old ewes:  
Very Choice Stuff

200 Ewe lambs

50 Old ewes



Day Farms Company

PAROWAN, UTAH



## SIX

At the 1926 International Live Stock Show in Chicago we won champion Hampshire ewe for the sixth consecutive year.

And during those six years we have won Champion Ram three times and the majority of the Blue Ribbons in all classes.

This consistent winning indicates we are breeding the correct type

## HAMPSHIRE

THOUSAND SPRINGS FARM  
WENDELL, IDAHO

Minnie W. Miller, Owner

### Banker Retiring From Sheep Business

640-acre ranch with unlimited free range, lambing grounds, equipment, Forest Reserve Permit and horses.  
600-acre hay and grain ranch with one of best and oldest water rights.  
430—One-half blood or better ewe lambs.  
660—2-year-old ewes, cross breeds.  
725—4 and 5-year-old ewes.  
42—Full blooded bucks.  
Ranches at half their value and sheep at going prices. Ranches control enough range for three bands.  
Proposition can be divided.  
BERNARD ALLHANDS  
Leadore, Idaho

## RAUP'S —Ohio— RAMBOUILLETS

I offer at this time:

30 rams two years old this spring. 30 ewes, the same age, bred to lamb in the spring. 50 older ewes.

☐☐☐

CHANDLER P. RAUP  
SPRINGFIELD, OHIO  
R. D. 10

ewes have been sold at \$10 to \$11; mixed ages went at \$10 and the old ones sold at 5 to 5½ cents a pound.

There is a slight increase in the number of ewes to be bred this fall.

Fernandez Company.

### Albuquerque

November weather has been favorable and ranges at this time (November 22) are fair to good, so far as feed is concerned. Our ranges could easily support more sheep than we now have. Very few winter-feed their flocks here and therefore, there is no hay grown to speak of.

Local sales of feeder lambs have been at prices ranging from 10 to 12 cents, the lots of mixed ewes and wethers taking the higher price. Transactions in ewes have been on a price range of \$8 to \$10.

Breeding bands are about the same size as a year ago; most of the sheepmen held their ewe lambs this fall for replacement purposes.

Max Nordhouse

### Clayton

We have plenty of range in this section to take care of more sheep, although just at present (November 23) the forage on it is only fair. There has been no increase in the size of the ewe bands since last year and only about 20 per cent of the ewe lambs were held back this fall to take the place of the old ewes to be culled next year.

Eleven to 11½ cents bought all of the feeder lambs for sale locally. Ewes have changed hands at the following prices: \$11 to \$12 for yearlings; \$5 to \$7 for aged; and \$8 to \$10 for mixed ages.

About half of the sheep are fed during the winter months and the rest graze the range. Alfalfa hay is quoted at \$10 in the stack.

R. K. Chambers.

### Arabela

No ewe lambs were sold locally; the wethers sold for 10 cents. Lambs generally were heavier this year. Five, eight and ten dollars was paid for old, mixed and yearling ewes.

Fall weather has been good and the prospects for range feed are fair. Alfalfa hay is \$9 in the stack.

Leo Packeco.

## WESTERN TEXAS

The weather has been favorable for live stock in this area, the ranges and animals being in fair to excellent condition. Only brief periods with temperatures below freezing occurred, and high winds were not important. Only some local areas have short ranges. Precipitation has been comparatively light and infrequent, though the need for moisture is not apparent as a rule.

### Sanderson

It has been very dry all during November, and while the grass is good, rain is needed for the winter weeds. Unless we have very bad weather, the sheep will winter very well. All of our sheep winter on the range, but on fenced areas so we do not need herders. The range here is fully stocked.

There have been some transfers of ewes recently, \$10 being given for yearlings, \$7.50 for those of mixed ages, and up to \$4 for aged ones. Feeder lambs have sold as high as 11 cents for ewe and wether lambs mixed and 10 cents for straight wethers.

A. Appel.

### Clyde

There is more winter feed this year than for years. Very few growers herd sheep in this country, as most of the flocks are small ones owned by farmers and run in fenced pastures. The men who use the range usually feed a little cake, cottonseed or maize to their sheep during the winter months. No alfalfa hay is grown here.

More ewes will be bred this fall, and nearly all of the ewe lambs were retained to make replacements. Wether lambs were purchased locally at \$5 to \$5.50. From \$4 to \$6 has been paid for old ewes; \$7 to \$9 for those of mixed ages; and \$10 for yearlings.

Light freezes have occurred during November.

John Berry.

### Big Lake

A few nights during November have been cold enough to freeze ice. There have been no rains, but there is plenty of good grass in this part of the country. Sheep are run all winter on the range and

fed a little before lambing. No alfalfa is raised here.

Most of the stockmen are keeping their ewe lambs, but a few lots of mixed ewe and wether lambs sold at 11 cents. The straight wether end brought 10 to 10½ cents.

More ewes are to be bred this season than last. Sales of yearling ewes have been made at \$10 to \$11; mixed ages brought \$7.50 to \$9; and old ewes, \$5.

Edgar D. Becton.

### ARIZONA

Temperatures have been comfortable for live stock, but precipitation has in most cases been somewhat insufficient. Some snow lies on the higher elevations, but the lower levels are largely very dry, and water supplies are not abundant. The result is that many live stock are reported in only fair condition, though light scattering showers freshened the browse and improved the pastures temporarily. Some marketing has continued, cattle going to market in satisfactory shape. The dry weather has favored the curing of the winter feed.

### Wickenburg

It has been threatening to rain for some time, but as yet there has been none, and now (November 23) it is very dry, with only fair prospects for winter range feed. Alfalfa hay is \$14 a ton in the stack. About half of our sheep are fed all winter and the rest of them are run on the range, which is pretty well stocked.

Most of the ewe lambs are being marketed by the sheepmen and the ewe bands are growing smaller. I estimate that the number of ewes bred this fall will be under that of a year ago by about five per cent.

Ewes ranging from yearlings to fours have been selling at \$13.25 a head, and aged ones have brought \$7.50. Feeder lambs, both straight wethers and wethers and ewes mixed, have sold at 10 cents.

Pete Espil.

### San Simon

There are not many sheep in southern Arizona at this time. This territory has been occupied largely by cattlemen since

the country was first settled. The prevalence of poisonous weeds in most of the mountain districts probably has deterred the sheepmen. There is some changing around, as a few sheepmen have abandoned sheep for cattle and some cattlemen are buying sheep. More cattlemen would buy sheep if they were able to finance the deals.

Mexican herders and camp tenders are employed altogether at the standard wage of \$50 a month.

Sheepmen on well established ranches are saving the ewe lambs and selling their old ewes, thereby increasing the flocks each year. I think that in most flocks from 10 to 20 per cent more ewes will be bred this season. We have plenty of feed here to take care of more sheep, but there is a scarcity of water. A few aged ewes have been sold recently at \$7.50 to \$8.50.

All of the lambs were heavier this year by about ten to fifteen pounds, I should think. The feeders sold at home brought up to 12 cents for the lots of mixed ewes and wethers.

J. M. McKenzie.

### UTAH

Exceptionally mild weather has prevailed and live stock are in fairly good condition. Most cattle and many sheep have been held in farm pastures or feeding lots, though feeding has not been heavy. Precipitation has been near or somewhat above normal, but it has been largely in the form of rain, leaving the desert ranges bare. The forage has as a consequence become considerably depleted around water. Grain has been threatened because of droughty weather and dry soils, though it is now believed most grains will germinate.

### Cedar City

It rained in patches during the last half of August and the first part of September, but since then there has been no rain until today, November 25, when there was another light one. The country I am speaking of is southern Utah and northern Arizona, the section known as the "Arizona Strip." Feed on the range is about on an average with other years, but water is scarce and ranges are overstocked



One of My Stud Rams

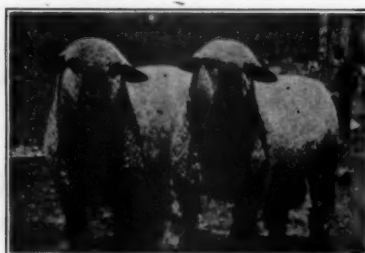
## CALIFORNIA RAMBOUILLETS

My Rambouillets are large, smooth and well covered with heavy fleeces of long white wool. They are bred in a high, dry country and are very hardy. I have 2000 one and two-year-old rams for this season. If you visit California, call and see my flocks. My prices are reasonable and my rams will suit the range country.

**CHAS. A. KIMBLE**  
**Hanford, Cal.**

**POLLED RAMBOUILLETS**

**MY OFFERINGS FOR 1927**  
 300 Yearling Rams, eligible to registration,  
 and over half polled.  
 300 Registered Yearling Ewes.  
 4 Registered Percheron Stallions.  
 6 Registered Percheron Mares.  
**W. S. HANSEN, Collinston, Utah**



Yearling Hampshire Rams in the Rough  
 The kind that have made Ridgcrest Hamp-  
 shires famous

A comparison of both top and general average prices of Hampshire rams obtained at the National Ram Sale for the past several years puts Ridgcrest Hampshires in a class by themselves and establishes them as the Premier Flock of America.  
**H. L. FINCH, Owner, Soda Springs, Idaho**

**Grow More Wool**

**Merinos Excel All Breeds in  
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Write for Literature and List of  
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**The American and Delaine  
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**HAMPSHIRE**

The best mutton sheep. Evidence; the highest-priced car mutton lambs ever sold in the world was a car of Hampshires. The price was 42 cents a pound live weight, having beaten all previous records by \$7 per hundred. When you want sheep you want Hampshires. When you want Hampshires let the American Hampshire Sheep Association send you a dandy little booklet and list of live breeders.

Write

**COMFORT A. TYLER, Secretary**  
 72 Woodland Ave.,  
 Detroit, Mich.

## Oldest Breeders in the West of HAMPSHIRE RAMS and EWES

**Range Bred, Purebred or Registered.**  
**Lincoln - Rambouillet (Cross-bred) Rams**  
**Top Notch Wool - Mutton Combination**

Some very cheap Rambouillet Rams bred from  
 the best strains.

**Range Ewes From Yearlings Up**

ADDRESS:

**WOOD LIVE STOCK COMPANY**

**F. J. HAGENBARTH, President**

**SPENCER, IDAHO**

on account of the drouth. Ten dollars a ton is asked for alfalfa hay.

Transactions in ewes have been on the following basis: \$12 to \$13.50 for yearlings, \$11 to \$12 for those of mixed ages, and \$5 to \$7 for aged ones. A few more ewes will be bred this fall than a year ago. About 95 per cent of the ewe lambs were retained by breeders this year.

Francis Esplin.

**Chester**

Practically all of the sheep depend on the winter range for feed in this section and at the present time (November 22) feed prospects are not very encouraging, as there has been no moisture. Alfalfa hay is \$10 a ton.

Yearling ewes have recently been sold at \$13 and old ones at \$6.50. About 65 per cent of the ewe lambs were kept for flock purposes. Purchases of feeder lambs made locally were around 10½ cents for wethers and 12 cents for mixed ewes and wethers.

The bands of breeding ewes are about the same size as a year ago. Feed conditions on the range are not good enough to take care of much of an increase in sheep numbers.

Ninety dollars is being paid to herders.  
 Jos. F. Bagnall.

**Price**

Warm days, cool nights, and no rain is the record for fall weather, and our range is only about 75 per cent of normal. It certainly will not take care of any more sheep than we now have in this section.

Lambs were about two pounds lighter than in 1925. Feeders sold here at 11 cents. Yearling ewes have brought \$14; those of mixed ages, \$9; and old ewes \$7.50. Only about ten per cent of the ewe lambs were marketed this fall.

Herders receive \$65 to \$100 a month. Alfalfa hay is \$12 a ton.

Charles Larsen.

**COLORADO**

Moderate temperatures have prevailed, favoring live stock and outdoor operations. Droughty weather has been the rule, however, especially in eastern and southeastern counties. The ranges and fields are dry in these latter sections and live stock are on restricted areas; supple-



mental feeding has been general though it has not been heavy. The western slope ranges received a much needed rain and snowstorm at the end of the month, appreciably improving the condition of live stock and the forage.

#### Center

We have had ideal weather since November 1; very little snow. Feed on the winter range is poor, but we always feed peas, alfalfa and native hay after December 1. Eight dollars a ton is asked for alfalfa hay. Only about five per cent of the sheep are kept on the range during the winter time.

Sales of ewes have been reported at \$5 to \$6 for aged ones and \$10 to \$12 for those of mixed ages. Feeder lambs were taken over at home here at 11 and 11½ cents. A good many of the ewe lambs, probably around 50 per cent, were retained. Ewes to be bred this fall will exceed those of a year ago by about 10 per cent.

N. C. Gilbreath

#### Norwood

November was a very dry month. There is no snow in lower country (winter range) and very little in the higher country. It looks as if we will have only fair feed on the winter range. About 40 per cent of the sheep are winter-fed in this district and the other 60 per cent run on the range.

An experienced local sheepman paid \$16 each for a band of 1400 choice two-year-old ewes recently. The average prices paid have been around \$14 for ewes of mixed ages, \$13.50 for yearlings and from \$5.50 to \$6.50 for old ewes.

Only a few feeder lambs were sold here and they were bought for experimental feeding. Twelve cents was paid for them.

Very few ewe lambs were kept this fall, I should say about 10 per cent. The number of ewes to be bred is 30 per cent above last year.

Alfalfa hay can be had at from \$4 to \$6 a ton. Wages for herders are \$60 to \$75 a month. O. A. Greagor.

#### Walden

We had one storm, November 16, when from four to six inches of snow fell, but now, ten days later, it has all melted;



#### The American Shropshire Registry Assn.

Organized 1884  
Share of stock,  
\$5.00  
7150 Stockholders  
No Annual dues.  
The Largest Sheep  
Organization in  
the World.  
W. S. GUILFORD  
President  
Lafayette, Ind.  
J. M. WADE,  
Secretary

#### American Rambouillet Sheep Breeders Ass'n

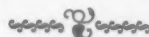
Membership Fee \$10—No Annual Dues. Flock Books Free to Members. Volumes XXII and XXIII are being bound together and will soon be ready for distribution. Pedigrees now being received for Volume XXV. Over 115,000 sheep on record.

President  
F. N. Bullard, Woodland, California  
Secretary

Dwight Lincoln, Marysville, Ohio  
For history of the breed, list of members, rules, pedigree blanks, etc., address the Secretary.

## Wm. Briggs & Son

### Dixon, California



We produce a high type of  
Rambouillet Sheep. A choice  
lot of Ewes and Rams for sale  
at all times.

## BULLARD BROS.

### WOODLAND, CALIF.

BREEDERS OF  
FINE WOOL  
RAMBOUILLET  
SHEEP



"Son of Ted"  
Sold L. N. Marsden, Parowan, Utah, in  
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FLOCK FOUNDED IN 1875

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# MANTI LIVESTOCK COMPANY

MANTI, UTAH



Breeders of Rambouillets for over twenty years.

## DELAINE MERINOS

GROW MORE AND BETTER WOOL AND  
Are the best rangers in the world. Many leading sheepmen say they can keep three Delaine ewes on the same range that formerly kept two Rambouillet ewes. That the three Delaine ewes will shear double the wool and raise a blockier lamb which the trade demands.  
Cross your range ewes with DELAINE MERINO BUCKS and get a band of Really Profitable Sheep to run. Will sell you one or a car load. Photos free. Prices reasonable.  
FRANK H. RUSSELL - BOX 80, WAKEMAN, OHIO

## THE GROWING BURDEN

Government last year took in taxes from the Class 1 railroads of the country more than six and one-half times as much gold as all the gold mines of the United States and its possessions produced during the year.

Taxation is one of the few annual expenditures which are beyond control of the railroads. All expenditures amenable to practices of economy and efficiency have been drastically reduced and railroads today are more economically and efficiently managed than ever before in history.

While railroad cash dividends since 1911 have shown a decrease of fourteen per cent, railroad taxes have increased 263 per cent with the peak not yet in sight. Last year Southern Pacific paid out for taxes \$21,275,282—virtually the same amount paid in dividends to the company's stockholders, the owners of the properties.

In 1915 the tax on 1,000 miles of Southern Pacific road would have purchased 23.6 Pacific type locomotives. To pay these taxes work equivalent to hauling 1,857 carloads of pears from Medford, Oregon, to Chicago was performed. With price of locomotives advanced more than 153 per cent over 1915, the 1925 taxes on 1,000 miles of road would have purchased 25.3 locomotives, and to meet them work equivalent to moving 3,370 carloads of pears from Medford to Chicago was performed.

SOUTHERN PACIFIC

otherwise fall weather has been fine. The ranges are in good condition. All of our sheep, however, are fed during the winter months.

All of our ewe lambs were marketed this year, and the breeding lambs are smaller in number by about 20 per cent.

Herders' wages are \$75 a month.

Harry Green.

### Hotchkiss

November weather has been fine until yesterday, November 25. It commenced to snow the night of the 24th, and it is snowing again tonight. Our range is not so good as it usually is, due to the very dry summer we have had. Most of the sheepmen use the range during the winter, only about a third of the sheep being fed. Alfalfa hay in the stack can be had at \$7 a ton.

One sale of ewes, mixed ages, has been made here recently at \$12.50 a head. There has been no increase in the ewe bands; about a third of the ewe lambs were retained by the sheepmen this fall.

Lee Gray.

### DECISION ON TRESPASS CASE GIVEN BY MONTANA SUPREME COURT

The Supreme Court of Montana has recently handed down a decision which holds that since growing grass is a part of the soil, its destruction is a damage to the real property on which it grows and, under a judgment for trespass damages, the person damaged is entitled to recover his costs. The case in which the decision was made originated in the district court of Wheatland County. One Edgar Kiehl claimed that forage on his field was destroyed by sheep belonging to Charles Holliday. The former brought suit for trespass, asking \$500 actual and \$500 punitive damages and ten cents a head for each day the sheep were on the field. The district court awarded him \$25 and costs. Mr. Holliday's attorneys objected to the cost award on the ground that, since the award was less than \$50, each party must pay his own costs. The district court upheld this contention and the plaintiff appealed to the Supreme Court, which reversed the district court's order and made the above decision. L. S.

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